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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
Case No. 08-13555 (JMP)

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In the Matter of:  
  
LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al.  
  
Debtors.

- - - - -x

United States Bankruptcy Court  
One Bowling Green  
New York, New York  
  
July 14, 2010  
10:03 AM

B E F O R E:  
  
HON. JAMES M. PECK  
  
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE



1  
2 HEARING re Motion of JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A for Relief from  
3 the Automatic Stay  
4

5 HEARING re Debtors' Motion for Authorization to Sell Its  
6 Limited Partnership Interest in New Silk Route PE Asia Fund,  
7 L.P.  
8

9 HEARING re Debtors' Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement  
10 Between Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc., Lehman Commercial Paper  
11 Inc., Silver Lake Credit Fund, L.P. and Silver Lake Financial  
12 Associates, L.P.  
13

14 HEARING re LBHI's Motion for Authorization to Transfer Certain  
15 Mortgage Servicing Rights to Aurora Bank FSB  
16

17 HEARING re Motion of the Chapter 11 Trustee of the SunCal  
18 Master Debtors for Relief from the Automatic Stay  
19

20 HEARING re Debtors' Motion for an Order Enforcing the Automatic  
21 Stay Against Greenbrier Minerals Holdings, LLC  
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HEARING re Debtors' Motion to Compel Performance by Norton Gold  
Fields Limited of its Obligations Under an Executory Contract  
and to Enforce the Automatic Stay

Transcribed by: Lisa Bar-Leib



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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 THE COURT: Be seated, please. Good morning.

3 MR. PEREZ: Good morning, Your Honor. Alfredo Perez  
4 on behalf of the debtors. Your Honor, the very first matter on  
5 the agenda is an uncontested matter. It's a stipulation  
6 lifting the automatic stay so that JPMorgan can proceed in a  
7 lawsuit. We have the stipulation ready to present if we can do  
8 that at the appropriate time.

9 THE COURT: Might as well do it now.

10 MR. PEREZ: Okay. Your Honor, this is -- in essence,  
11 BNC, which is one of the debtors, had originated a loan and  
12 foreclosed on a single asset, a home, and subsequently was sold  
13 to a securities agent trust and JPMorgan is now the holder of  
14 that loan. There's litigation between the homeowners and  
15 JPMorgan. BNC, the debtor, has no further interest in the  
16 property. And we just want to lift the stay so that they can  
17 proceed with their state court lawsuit.

18 THE COURT: That's fine.

19 MR. ZABICKI: Thank you. Just for the record, Your  
20 Honor, Eric Zabicki, of the firm Pick & Zabicki for JPMorgan  
21 Chase. No objection to the entry of the stipulation.

22 THE COURT: Fine. You can add the stipulation to  
23 other orders to be submitted at the end of today's hearing.

24 MR. PEREZ: Thank you, Your Honor. The next two  
25 matters are going to be handled by Mr. Fail.



1 MR. FAIL: Good morning, Your Honor. Garrett Fail,  
2 Weil Gotshal for the debtors. The next item on the agenda is a  
3 motion of Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. for authorization to  
4 sell its limited partnership interest in New Silk Route PE Asia  
5 Fund, L.P. It is supported by the declaration of Christopher  
6 Mosher which was filed in support thereof. Mr. Mosher is  
7 present in the courtroom this morning.

8 As set forth in the motion and the declaration, LBHI  
9 seeks authorization to sell its limited partnership interest in  
10 an approximately 1.4 billion dollar India-focused first time  
11 private equity fund. This interest is one of many private  
12 equity investments that LBHI made prior to the commencement of  
13 these cases. LBHI's investment was made in April of 2007.  
14 Currently, LBHI's interest is represented by a commitment to  
15 contribute to the fund capital of up to 125 million dollars.

16 As of the commencement of the cases, LBHI funded  
17 approximately twenty-eight million dollars leaving an unfunded  
18 portion of approximately ninety-seven million dollars. LBHI  
19 proposes to sell the interest to Berkeley Investment Ltd.  
20 pursuant to a transfer agreement dated June 4, 2010 which was  
21 negotiated among LBHI, Berkeley and the fund's general partner.  
22 A copy of the agreement was attached to the motion.

23 Pursuant to the agreement, Berkeley will pay LBHI  
24 approximately 441,000 dollars and assume LBHI's outstanding and  
25 future contributions -- obligations to contribute capital to



1 the fund. The general partner will also withdraw its claim  
2 which has been numbered claim number 1011 -- 11,042 against  
3 LBHI.

4 As set forth in the motion and the declaration, the  
5 proposed sale represents the best opportunity to realize value  
6 from a diminishing asset. Absent the relief requested, the  
7 value of LBHI's interest will continue to erode as fees and  
8 expenses of the fund and other charges accrue against LBHI's  
9 investment. LBHI will recover none of the amount it has  
10 already funded and LBHI may be liable and ultimately required  
11 to make distributions to the fund for its claim.

12 Prior to filing the motion, LBHI approached over forty  
13 potential secondary buyers in an effort to market and sell its  
14 interest. In addition, LBHI solicited indications of interest  
15 through the motion. LBHI did not receive any interest other  
16 than the offer made by Berkeley.

17 In coming to its decision to enter into this  
18 transaction, LBHI coordinated with the creditors' committee and  
19 its financial and legal advisors. And prior to filing the  
20 motion, LBHI was informed that the creditors' committee did not  
21 object to the transaction.

22 Only one objection was interposed. It was filed by  
23 Mr. Kuntz. We received an e-mail last night indicating that  
24 Mr. Kuntz would not be attending the hearing this morning. And  
25 I don't see him in the courtroom as we stand here now.



1 At this time, LBHI would request that the Court  
2 overrule the objection and enter and grant the motion -- enter  
3 an order granting the motion.

4 THE COURT: I'm prepared to do that. I'd like to hear  
5 from the creditors' committee simply as to the oversight  
6 functions that were exercised in the business judgment of any  
7 subcommittee of the committee that may have been involved in  
8 reviewing this transaction.

9 MR. O'DONNELL: Your Honor, Dennis O'Donnell, Milbank,  
10 Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, on behalf of the official committee of  
11 unsecured creditors. Your Honor, the private equity  
12 subcommittee of the committee did evaluate this transaction and  
13 spent a couple of months, actually, looking at it and concluded  
14 for many of the reasons as Mr. Fail alluded to, primarily the  
15 avoidance, the elimination of the unfunded commitment here.  
16 And the committee's advisors' views of the opportunities in the  
17 relevant market that this sale represent the best available  
18 option at this time. And the committee has no objection to its  
19 approval.

20 THE COURT: Fine. Based upon my review of the motion  
21 and the declaration of Christopher Mosher in support of the  
22 motion, I'm satisfied that this is the best available  
23 transaction in respect of this investment at this time. And  
24 I'm prepared to approve it and overrule Mr. Kuntz' objection  
25 which is not being prosecuted today.



1 MR. FAIL: Thank you very much, Your Honor. The next  
2 item on the agenda is the motion of Lehman Brothers Holdings  
3 Inc. and Lehman Commercial Paper Inc. for approval of a  
4 settlement agreement with Silver Lake Credit Fund, L.P. and  
5 Silver Lake Financial Associates, L.P.

6 Your Honor, with the Court's permission, I'd like to  
7 offer as a proffer testimony that would be given by Christopher  
8 Mosher, a managing director in LAMCO LLC's Private Equity and  
9 Principal Investments Group. As I mentioned in connection with  
10 the previous motion, Mr. Mosher is in the courtroom today.  
11 Thank you, Your Honor.

12 If Mr. Mosher were called to testify, his direct  
13 testimony would be as follows:

14 Mr. Mosher would testify that as a managing director  
15 for LAMCO, he's responsible for advising LBHI on its private  
16 equity and principal investments assets including Silver Lake  
17 Credit Fund pursuant to the asset management agreement between  
18 LBHI and LAMCO.

19 Specifically, and among his other responsibilities, he  
20 is senior responsibility within the private equity and  
21 principal investments group for general and limited partnership  
22 interest and third party private equity and hedge funds and  
23 certain direct principal investments. Prior to the formation  
24 of LAMCO, he was the managing director of LBHI and part of  
25 LBHI's private equity and principal investments groups with the



1 same responsibility he now has for LAMCO.

2 Prior to the commencement of LBHI's Chapter 11 case,  
3 he was a managing director of Lehman Brothers Inc. and global  
4 head of corporate development with responsibility for leading  
5 strategic acquisitions. Prior to that, he was a vice president  
6 in the investment banking division of Goldman Sachs & Co.  
7 focusing on financial institutions. He's familiar with the  
8 activities of the private equity and principal investment  
9 groups including the various types of assets, disposition  
10 agreement entered into by LBHI as it winds up its estate.

11 Mr. Mosher would testify that prior to the  
12 commencement date, LBHI's businesses included numerous  
13 investments in hedge funds located in the United States and  
14 internationally. In 2008, LBHI acquired a limited partnership  
15 interest in the Silver Lake Credit Fund, a credit-focused hedge  
16 fund by making five capital contributions totaling one hundred  
17 million dollars.

18 Mr. Mosher would testify that LBHI's investment in the  
19 Silver Lake Credit Fund was subject to a two-year lockup period  
20 that expired with respect to the first capital contribution in  
21 January of 2010.

22 Mr. Mosher would further testify that in the months  
23 leading up to the expiration of the lockup period, LBHI  
24 reviewed its options with respect to its investment in the  
25 Silver Lake Credit Fund and, consistent with his general



1 investment strategy, determined to withdraw from the fund as  
2 soon as the lockup period expired. This decision was primarily  
3 based on three factors: LBHI's general desire to limit its  
4 exposure to market fluctuations; LBHI's belief that within the  
5 time frame of these Chapter 11 cases, monetizing the interest  
6 in Silver Lake Credit Fund in the near term is the prudent  
7 course of action. And given the fact that LBHI is one of the  
8 significant investors in the fund, the withdrawal of another  
9 significant investor could divert much of the fund's available  
10 cash and limit withdrawal options in the future. LBHI thus  
11 delivered a redemption notice to Silver Lake in March of 2010.  
12 It informed Silver Lake of LBHI's intent to withdraw one  
13 hundred percent of the balance of the fund.

14 Mr. Mosher would testify that Silver Lake filed a  
15 number of proofs of claim in LBHI's chapter case. And he would  
16 testify that following the receipt of the redemption notice,  
17 Silver Lake advised LBHI that it intended to recoup amounts  
18 related to its claims against amounts that are due to LBHI from  
19 its investment.

20 Silver Lake further informed LBHI that it intended to  
21 enforce provisions of its limited partnership agreement that  
22 restrict or limit all limited partners' withdrawal of the  
23 interest in the funds. These provisions include a provision  
24 that gives Silver Lake a discretion to limit the aggregate  
25 withdrawals made by all limited partners in a particular



1 semiannual period; a provision that gives Silver Lake  
2 discretion to spend or limit withdrawals and defer payments of  
3 distributions or withdrawals; and provisions that provide  
4 distributions that may be made in kind including illiquid  
5 securities.

6 Mr. Mosher would testify that LBHI disputes the amount  
7 and validity of Silver Lake's claims and the enforceability of  
8 restrictions contained in the partnership agreement but that in  
9 order to avoid delay on certainty and expense of litigation,  
10 LBHI agreed to the settlement agreement with Silver Lake. The  
11 material terms of the settlement agreement are as follows:

12 Unless Silver Lake elects to enter into an alternative  
13 transaction, 92.5 percent of the amount that would otherwise be  
14 payable to LBHI in connection with its withdrawal shall be paid  
15 to LBHI in three installments. In lieu of the foregoing,  
16 Silver Lake may, in its discretion cause LBHI to sell all or a  
17 designated portion of its interest in Silver Lake pursuant to  
18 an assignment and assumption agreement that was also filed in  
19 connection with the motion.

20 The purchase price for such an alternative transaction  
21 shall not be less than 92.5 percent of the value in the  
22 investment. Silver Lake agrees to waive and release any and  
23 all rights to recoup amounts owed by LBHI on account of its  
24 claims. In addition, claim 15157 shall be deemed withdrawn  
25 with prejudice.



1 Mr. Mosher would testify that LBHI's decision to enter  
2 into this settlement agreement is well-informed and represents  
3 a reasonable exercise of LBHI's business judgment. LBHI has  
4 considered the cost and benefits associated with litigation and  
5 believes that the settlement agreement is reasonable and  
6 appropriate.

7 And that would conclude Mr. Mosher's direct testimony,  
8 Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Is there any objection to my receipt of  
10 Mr. Fail's rendition of Mr. Mosher's testimony as a proffer?  
11 There's no objection. I accept the proffer as evidence in  
12 support of the motion.

13 MR. FAIL: Thank you, Your Honor. We received only  
14 one objection to the motion, again by Mr. Kuntz. I do not  
15 believe that the objection was filed on the docket but I do  
16 believe that we submitted a copy to Your Honor in connection  
17 with the hearing binder in advance of the hearing.

18 THE COURT: I don't believe that Mr. Kuntz is here to  
19 prosecute that objection. Is there anyone in person or on the  
20 telephone representing Mr. Kuntz's interests? I hear nothing.  
21 So his objection is not being prosecuted today.

22 MR. FAIL: Thank you, Your Honor. At this time,  
23 unless you have any further questions, the debtors request that  
24 the Court overrule the objection and grant the motion.

25 THE COURT: I do have one question which really goes



1 to the heart of the agreement itself. And it may be that  
2 someone from Silver Lake needs to comment on this. I don't  
3 understand under what circumstances the alternative transaction  
4 structure is implemented and what, if any, impact that has on  
5 the debtors. I understand the 92.5 percent floor. But I'm not  
6 sure I understand why this has been structured in so complex a  
7 manner.

8 MR. FAIL: I'll see if anyone is here for Silver Lake  
9 today.

10 THE COURT: Is anyone here from Silver Lake?  
11 Apparently, they didn't think this was important enough to send  
12 anybody.

13 MR. FAIL: I don't know if that's the case, Your  
14 Honor. There is no one here in the courtroom today. From the  
15 debtors' perspective, it's neutral to the debtors. The 92.5  
16 percent is the floor that the debtors could receive -- it is  
17 the amount that the debtors will receive if the installments  
18 are paid. And if Silver Lake finds a new investor that would  
19 like to take over and perhaps do ongoing business with the  
20 fund, it would sell the interest.

21 THE COURT: Is this purely neutral from the  
22 perspective of the estate in that the 92.5 percent is paid in  
23 the same manner and in the same time sequence or is there  
24 anything negative associated with the exercise of an  
25 alternative transaction?



1 MR. FAIL: If you give me one moment, Your Honor, I'll  
2 confer with my clients. I believe that it is neutral or it  
3 could be positive.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 (Pause)

6 MR. FAIL: Your Honor, my previous statement is  
7 correct. It is neutral to the debtors. It may be positive in  
8 the fact that the debtors may receive cash sooner if the  
9 investment is sold to a third party. And an additional reason  
10 that Silver Lake may elect to do the alternative transaction is  
11 that it cannot obtain liquidity from its own assets but seeks  
12 to have a third party provide that liquidity.

13 THE COURT: Okay. And the same question that I asked  
14 in connection with the earlier matter of the committee. I'd be  
15 interested in the committee's evaluation of this transaction.

16 MR. O'DONNELL: Your Honor, Dennis O'Donnell, Milbank  
17 Tweed again on behalf of the committee. Just as a preface,  
18 Your Honor, the committee has a private equity subcommittee  
19 that regularly evaluates proposed transactions with respect to  
20 private equity assets. And the committee has been engaged for  
21 some time and continues to be engaged in the process of  
22 determining when it's appropriate to sell and when it's  
23 appropriate to hold. And there have not been many sales of  
24 private equity assets to date in this case. And it's an  
25 ongoing discussion amongst us and the debtors as to when it's



1 appropriate and when it's not appropriate. In this case, like  
2 the one before, we believe that the proposed transaction here  
3 makes sense for all the reasons articulated by Mr. Fail, in  
4 particular, the waiving of the claims on top of the sale of the  
5 asset here. We think the combination provides a good value for  
6 the debtors. And the alternative transaction, we also agree,  
7 is neutral to the debtors and no manner which way it turns out  
8 should be in the debtors' best interest.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you for that. This motion to  
10 approve the transaction with Silver Lake is approved.

11 MR. FAIL: Thank you very much, Your Honor. The next  
12 item on the agenda will be handled by Mr. Perez.

13 MR. PEREZ: Good morning, Your Honor, Alfredo Perez.  
14 The fourth matter on the agenda is the motion to authorize to  
15 transfer of certain mortgaging servicing rights from LBHI to  
16 Aurora. This is a matter, Your Honor, that we have been --  
17 that I've been before the Court on many, many times.

18 In essence, Your Honor, when I was last here, I  
19 believe in January, the debtor was in the process of  
20 negotiating an overall settlement. In fact, we continued to  
21 try to negotiate that overall settlement. I do have a proffer  
22 from Mr. Lambert who will advise the Court as to the status of  
23 that and what's happened in the last seven months since that  
24 time.

25 But in essence, this particular motion is kind of what



1 I would call the first step or an initial step with respect to  
2 the overall settlement. The plan and disclosure statement that  
3 we filed and is currently on file anticipates that the overall  
4 settlement would be done and discounts the economics on the  
5 basis of that. So I think everybody's well aware of the steps  
6 that we would take assuming we achieve regulatory approval. So  
7 the dollar amounts have already been taken into account in the  
8 recoveries.

9 So, in essence, the debtor -- LBHI has servicing  
10 rights, but not the underlying loans, for approximately 117,  
11 120,000 Fannie Mae loans. As part of the settlement, those  
12 loans would all be transferred to Aurora. There is a  
13 population of those loans which, in the motion that we filed,  
14 we thought it was about 40,000. It's actually a little bit  
15 less; it's about 37,000 -- that are what we call distressed  
16 loans. And those loans will, in fact, be transferred to Aurora  
17 without having to make any of the seller representations which  
18 we obviously wouldn't be able to do. We'd have to sell as is.  
19 And then Aurora, in turn, is going to transfer those to Fannie  
20 Mae and receive a payment for those. Had we had the -- had we  
21 had the ability to make the seller reps, the value of the --  
22 the appraised value of those servicing rights are about between  
23 forty and forty-four million dollars. Fannie Mae is going to  
24 be paying Aurora approximately twenty-five and a half million.  
25 And in the motion, we put twenty-six but since the population



1 has come down, it's about 25.3 million to 25.5 million  
2 depending on the exact number.

3 So that's, in essence, an additional funding for the  
4 bank. The bank is currently well capitalized. But this is  
5 part of one of the steps that would be taken in connection with  
6 the overall settlement.

7 And with the Court's permission, I'd like to -- a  
8 brief proffer from Mr. Lambert on the issue. We did receive  
9 one objection from Mr. Kuntz. Additionally, Your Honor, we  
10 received a reservation of rights from Fannie Mae. We spoke to  
11 them. They withdrew that. We made it clear -- we filed an  
12 amended motion to make clear that the claims that they've  
13 asserted in the LBHI bankruptcy are not in any way, shape or  
14 form touched or impacted by this motion. And I think it was a  
15 clarification. It was never -- there was no intent to do  
16 anything with Fannie Mae's proof of claim on file. Obviously,  
17 that's going to be resolved in the context of the overall  
18 settlement. So this didn't attempt to do that. We just made  
19 that clear. Winston & Strawn, who represents Fannie Mae, could  
20 not attend this morning and they said that we had permission to  
21 indicate to the Court that they were in favor of entering into  
22 this -- approval of this motion.

23 THE COURT: Just as a point of clarification, you said  
24 will be resolved in the context of the overall settlement.  
25 What settlement are you referring to?



1 MR. PEREZ: The overall settlement with Aurora and the  
2 OTS, the settlement that we've been waiting for since --

3 THE COURT: The settlement that has been alluded to  
4 but not yet described in any detail.

5 MR. PEREZ: Correct, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MR. PEREZ: Yes. So with the Court's permission, I'd  
8 like to proffer the testimony.

9 THE COURT: Yes, please.

10 MR. PEREZ: Okay.

11 THE COURT: Go ahead.

12 MR. PEREZ: Your Honor, if called to testify, Mr.  
13 Lambert, who is in court today at the very back, would testify  
14 that he has more than twenty years of experience in connection  
15 with financial and operational restructuring; that he is a  
16 managing director of Alvarez & Marsal and has been assigned to  
17 the Lehman matter since October 1, 2008; and that his areas of  
18 responsibility include managing the combined bankbook, the bank  
19 platforms for LBHI which include both Aurora Bank, FSB and  
20 Woodlands Commercial Bank.

21 Mr. Lambert has been intimately involved in the  
22 affairs of the banks since October 1st, 2008. And since that  
23 time, he has independently reviewed and been advised by the  
24 bank's business and its operations, records, financial  
25 statements and other data in connection with his communications



1 with the bank's management, the creditors' committee as well as  
2 respective counsel and professionals for both the bank and the  
3 estate.

4 And in addition, Mr. Lambert would testify that he,  
5 from time to time, has been in contact with the bank -- with  
6 the bank's regulators to discuss the issues surrounding the  
7 overall resolution of the claims asserted against LBHI by the  
8 bank.

9 Mr. Lambert is the primary representative on behalf of  
10 the debtors in connection with all matters relating to the bank  
11 and this motion, in particular.

12 Mr. Lambert would testify that based on an independent  
13 review of the bank's affairs by LBHI and its professionals,  
14 LBHI believes that the bank is a valuable asset of the estate  
15 and needs to preserve that value for the benefit of its  
16 creditors. In its most recent financial report, dated March  
17 31, the bank's book equity is in excess of 640 million dollars.

18 Mr. Lambert would further testify that, as the Court  
19 is aware, the bank is subject to authority of both the Office  
20 of Thrift Supervision and the FDIC and that in response to  
21 diminished capital levels reported on the December 31, 2008  
22 Thrift financial report, in February of 2009, the OTS issued a  
23 prompt corrective action directing the bank to impose  
24 significant restrictions on its operations including, among  
25 other things, the inability to issue certificates of deposits,



1 issuing new loans and conducting certain areas of business  
2 without the OTS' approval.

3 In response to those concerns caused by the prompt  
4 corrective action, including the potential seizure of the bank,  
5 LBHI has taken a series of steps to support the bank and  
6 preserve the opportunity to recover significant value therein.

7 And, Your Honor, just as an aside, in our pleading,  
8 there's a footnote which details all of the actions that we  
9 have taken in order to support the bank since the beginning of  
10 the case.

11 Mr. Lambert would further testify that after very  
12 prolonged and extensive negotiations with the bank that were  
13 overseen by the group of independent directors at the bank and  
14 extensive discussions with the OTS, LBHI has negotiated a  
15 comprehensive settlement with the bank. The settle -- this  
16 proposed settlement will settle the bank's claims asserted in  
17 the master forward agreement between the bank and LBHI which is  
18 related, in addition, to the 365(o) claim which are currently  
19 stated in the amount of 2.1 billion dollars. And it will also  
20 virtually settle all other open claims between the bank and  
21 LBHI.

22 When the settlement is implemented, it will  
23 significantly increase the bank's capital. It will  
24 substantially lessen the regulatory restrictions on the bank's  
25 operations. The settlement will also allow the bank to



1 continue to originate high quality residential mortgage loans  
2 and to enter into new business lines and possibly access the  
3 market for brokered certificates of deposits.

4 The settlement has been submitted to the OTS for  
5 approval and has been under review for the past several months.  
6 The regulators have provided comments to the party (sic)  
7 regarding the settlement and the parties have incorporated  
8 those modifications into the settlement. Formal approval has  
9 not yet been issued. The delay -- and Mr. Lambert would  
10 testify that delay is unfortunate as it has kept the bank in a  
11 position of operating under the prompt corrective action  
12 notwithstanding that the bank has now been "well capitalized",  
13 as that term is defined, in the regulations for over six months  
14 and is capable of conducting new business.

15 While the banks have been reviewing the settlement,  
16 LBHI and the banks have been focused, their attention on  
17 ensuring that delay does not impair or erode the value to LBHI  
18 estates. LBHI -- Mr. Lambert would testify that LBHI is  
19 becoming increasingly concerned that members of the bank's  
20 management team could terminate their employment with the bank  
21 because the PCA has prevented the bank from, for instance,  
22 paying bonuses to such employees that are standard in the  
23 bank's industry and that were due to be paid at the beginning  
24 of the year. Upon approval and consummation of the settlement,  
25 the immediate risk of the appointment of a receiver for the



1 bank and any assertion of a claim under 365(o) will be  
2 eliminated.

3 Now, with respect to the motion at hand, Mr. Lambert  
4 would testify that LBHI is the owner of certain mortgage  
5 servicing rights with respect to a portfolio of Fannie Mae  
6 loans. Aurora Loan Services is the subservicer of those  
7 rights. The entire portfolio of the Fannie Mae servicing  
8 rights totals approximately 114,000 loans with a principal  
9 balance of 21.7 million. They are all being currently serviced  
10 by Aurora. LBHI is not the lender and does not otherwise own  
11 the underlying loans. Rather, LBHI was the seller of the  
12 mortgage loan and owns the rights to service the loans. LBHI's  
13 mortgage servicing rights for the entire Fannie Mae portfolio,  
14 assuming that they were able to give the seller reps, were  
15 valued at approximately 154 million in May of 2009.

16 As part of the overall settlement, LBHI would transfer  
17 all of the mortgage servicing rights of Fannie Mae to Aurora.  
18 By this motion, LBHI seeks to contribute to the bank in advance  
19 of the settlement a portion of the portfolio mortgage servicing  
20 rights, whether it's the so-called "high risk" portfolio. This  
21 portfolio totals approximately 37,000 loans with a principal  
22 balance of between 8.2 and 8.3 billion dollars. Again, Mr.  
23 Lambert would testify that LBHI does not own the loans but only  
24 the servicing rights and that they were recently -- those  
25 servicing rights were recently appraised assuming that LBHI



1 could give the seller reps for approximately forty-four billion  
2 (sic) dollars.

3 Fannie Mae has --

4 THE COURT: You must mean million.

5 MR. PEREZ: Forty-four million. Sorry.

6 Fannie Mae has requested that LBHI transfer the  
7 designated amounts to the bank on or before August 1st and that  
8 the bank will, in turn, transfer the designated servicing  
9 rights to Fannie Mae as part of the transaction that Fannie Mae  
10 is developing as to concentrate the servicing of high risk  
11 loans.

12 In exchange, Fannie Mae has proposed to approve LBHI's  
13 transfer without the assumption of the seller obligations or  
14 seller reps and has agreed -- the bank has agreed to the terms  
15 of the settlement -- will not be changed by the reason of  
16 LBHI's transfer of the designated service rights to the bank  
17 after completion of the settlement. In addition, Fannie Mae  
18 will get approximately between 24.4 and 28 -- 24.8 million  
19 dollars for the servicing rights.

20 In addition to the immediate benefits from the  
21 transaction, Fannie Mae has indicated that it will consent to  
22 the transfer of all of LBHI's mortgage servicing rights for  
23 Fannie Mae-sponsored loans to the bank as contemplated in the  
24 overall settlement and will consent to such transfer without  
25 the assumption of the seller obligation.



1 In response to the motion, Fannie Mae filed a  
2 reservation of rights. That reservation of rights has now been  
3 withdrawn.

4 As it relates to the business judgment, Mr. Lambert  
5 would testify that LBHI's decision to immediately transfer the  
6 rights is based on an exercise of the debtors' business  
7 judgment. LBHI is receiving significant benefits as a result  
8 of further capitalizing the bank even if it's prior to the  
9 overall settlement with the bank. The bank will receive  
10 between 24.8 and -- 24.4 and 24.8 million dollars. And LBHI  
11 will not have to make the seller reps and warranties and the  
12 designated servicing rights will not be subject to the seller  
13 obligations.

14 Mr. Lambert believes that the transfer of the  
15 designated rights are in the best interest of the estate's and  
16 its creditors and that these transfers have been long  
17 contemplated as a strategy to recover the value of the banks  
18 and that, as a result of this, the bank's invest -- LBHI's  
19 investment in the bank will be maximized.

20 That concludes this proffer, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Is there any objection to that proffer? I  
22 hear no objection. I accept the proffer. Mr. Kuntz is not  
23 here as the only current objector. But this is an important  
24 transaction and I have a couple of questions of my own. One  
25 is, I am concerned about the twenty million dollar difference



1 between the appraised value of the mortgage servicing rights at  
2 forty-four million dollars and the approximate amount to be  
3 realized here of twenty-four million dollars. And I'm  
4 interested in Mr. Lambert's business judgment that that  
5 represents fair value for the assets being transferred.  
6 Alternatively, I'd be interested in also hearing from counsel  
7 for the committee after Mr. Lambert has had a chance to make  
8 his way to the front of the room

9 MR. PEREZ: Your Honor, just -- the only footnote is,  
10 the forty-four million included the reps and warranties.

11 THE COURT: I understand that but, in effect, what  
12 we're talking about is, is it really twenty million dollars  
13 worth of reps that we just gave up.

14 MR. LAMBERT: Good morning, Your Honor. Doug Lambert  
15 with Alvarez & Marsal for the debtor.

16 THE COURT: Good morning.

17 MR. LAMBERT: Yes, Your Honor, this has been a fairly  
18 complicated transaction as Mr. Perez had read my proffer. This  
19 is sort of the culmination of over nine months of negotiations  
20 with Fannie Mae. The value of the mortgage servicing rights,  
21 as indicated, first of all, that valuation was last done  
22 several months ago. So a portion of the difference would be  
23 just attributable to timing. We do not do on a monthly basis  
24 these valuations because they're time consuming and costly,  
25 but, generally, they proceed in a downward decline.



1 As Mr. Perez had indicated, the valuation which we had  
2 obtained for those mortgage servicing rights presupposed that  
3 those rights would be transferred to a purchaser free and clear  
4 of seller reps and warranties. By virtue of this transaction  
5 that we're seeking Court approval today to enter into, we will  
6 be transferring the remaining mortgage servicing rights owned  
7 and held by LBHI to the bank. The bank will not be obligated  
8 to step into LBHI's shoes or the seller reps and warranties  
9 which we believe if there was a dollar value associated with  
10 assumption of those seller reps and warranties would far exceed  
11 the discount that's indicated through the subsequent sale from  
12 the bank to another mortgage servicer designated by Fannie Mae.

13 So, sort of a long way of trying to answer your  
14 question to give you some background and context.

15 THE COURT: Just so I understand this, is this, in  
16 fact, a benefit to Aurora to receive these without seller reps  
17 so if any --

18 MR. LAMBERT: I would argue, certainly, it is both a  
19 benefit to LBHI as well as to the bank.

20 THE COURT: A benefit because LBHI would not be able  
21 to give the reps?

22 MR. LAMBERT: Correct --

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 MR. LAMBERT: -- without stepping into a -- I guess, a  
25 administrative undertaking.



1 THE COURT: All right. And then without meaning to  
2 put you not the spot, there have been some references to this  
3 transaction as being part of a broader settlement with the  
4 Office of Thrift Supervision that would lead to the removal of  
5 the limitations upon the current operations of Aurora Bank.  
6 What's the timing as far as you can estimate?

7 MR. LAMBERT: Your Honor, as I think we were last in  
8 court in December when we last sought to make a contribution,  
9 which was, in fact, at that time, a hundred million capital  
10 contribution in the form of cash to Aurora Bank, we had put  
11 forth a settlement, a global settlement, not only for Aurora  
12 Bank but also Woodlands Commercial Bank, the other banking  
13 institution owned by the estate. We believed at that time we  
14 had submitted to the regulators a comprehensive global  
15 settlement, one, and which was fair to all parties, took into  
16 consideration all matters and facts of law as well as economics  
17 to ensure that both institutions would remain financially  
18 sound. We still believe that that settlement accomplishes  
19 those goals. There has been virtually no deviation from the  
20 terms proposed back in December. And we have continued to wait  
21 as Mr. Perez has indicated for the past seven months for a  
22 definitive acceptance. The proposal has not been rejected.  
23 And as of latest last night, speaking with regulatory counsel  
24 for both institutions, we believe that the acceptance by not  
25 only OTS but the FDIC and the Federal Reserve is, in fact,



1 imminent.

2 I can't give you a definitive answer but I am hoping  
3 within the next week or two following perhaps passage of the  
4 Dodd-Frank bill that we would receive a definitive answer and  
5 hopefully acceptance --

6 THE COURT: Is there any --

7 MR. LAMBERT: -- of the settlement.

8 THE COURT: -- incremental risk here as a result of  
9 the regulatory overhaul legislation that's currently pending in  
10 Congress?

11 MR. LAMBERT: Specifically, as it relates to this  
12 transaction and the institutions? None that I am aware of.  
13 But as Your Honor I'm sure is aware, the legislation is,  
14 whatever, twenty-three or a hundred pages or so leaving, I  
15 think, open regulations that still need to be drafted and  
16 constructed by the various regulators. But there's nothing to  
17 my knowledge today, as I stand here before the Court, that  
18 would lead me to either change my recommendation to move  
19 forward with the proposed settlements that have been with the  
20 regulators these past seven months.

21 THE COURT: And would you be proposing the current  
22 settlement relating to the mortgage servicing rights transfer  
23 if it were not instrumental in developing an overall resolution  
24 of the problems with the bank?

25 MR. LAMBERT: Again, Your Honor, separate and apart



1 from the settlement, though these, as Mr. Perez indicated, were  
2 an interval (sic) part of the overall settlement, we believe  
3 that those mortgage servicing rights retained the most value on  
4 behalf of the estate in the hands of the bank which is actually  
5 the subservicer providing servicing under those servicing  
6 rights.

7 So, regardless of the settlement, I believe that  
8 maximizing value, ultimate value to the estate would be to have  
9 those servicing rights transferred into Aurora which I think  
10 will be able to derive the most value, if that answers your  
11 question.

12 THE COURT: It does. And I'd simply like to note  
13 that, Mr. Lambert, you've been giving the functional equivalent  
14 of testimony. But I haven't asked you to come to the witness  
15 stand and I haven't sworn you. And I don't treat this as  
16 testimony as much as representations that you're making in  
17 response to my questions. And I'm treating it with the  
18 formality that would otherwise apply if you were sworn as a  
19 witness.

20 MR. LAMBERT: Understood, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

22 MR. LAMBERT: My testimony wouldn't --

23 THE COURT: I'm confident that --

24 MR. LAMBERT: -- or my responses wouldn't change.

25 THE COURT: I'm confident that -- I'm confident that



1 in front of this large a crowd, you would not be saying  
2 anything other than truth.

3 MR. LAMBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right. I'd like to hear from the  
5 creditors' committee on this.

6 MR. O'DONNELL: Your Honor, Dennis O'Donnell, Milbank  
7 Tweed, on behalf of the committee again. Generally, Your  
8 Honor, as you know, we've been involved with the Aurora and  
9 Woodland situation for the better part of the last two years.  
10 We've supported the debtors in the past with respect to the  
11 investments that were made to keep the bank going and to  
12 promote an ultimate resolution. And we believe, like the  
13 debtors have represented, that ultimate approval of a global  
14 settlement is imminent. Anything's possible with the  
15 regulators in Washington, but we do believe that it's highly  
16 likely to reach fruition in the near future.

17 And we believe that this motion is part and parcel. I  
18 think, as Mr. Lambert just represented as well, we believe that  
19 even without the settlement, these mortgage servicing rights  
20 have greater value in the hands of Aurora because of the rep  
21 and warranties situation than anywhere else. So that even  
22 without the settlement, we would probably be inclined to  
23 support this motion. But given that it's part of the overall  
24 settlement would happen anyhow under the settlement which we  
25 believe will go forward and will happen, by virtue of the



1 motion, in a more favorable way for the debtors, given the  
2 waiver of the reps and warranties with respect to these  
3 mortgages, the overall waiver of the reps and warranties with  
4 respect to all the other mortgage servicing rights and the  
5 approval of Aurora for seller and servicing purposes, the  
6 overall package is -- represents a good deal for the debtors  
7 both in the context of this individual motion -- this motion by  
8 itself and with respect to the settlement which we hope is  
9 actually before the Court sometime in the relatively near  
10 future.

11 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Anything more?

12 MR. PEREZ: No, Your Honor. We have nothing further.  
13 We'd request that the Court grant the motion.

14 THE COURT: All right. We spent a lot of time on what  
15 is fundamentally an uncontested motion but it's an important  
16 matter. I'm satisfied based upon the proffer that has been  
17 made of Mr. Lambert's testimony and also Mr. Lambert's candid  
18 responses to some of my questions that this is a transaction  
19 which is in the best interest of the estate and may be  
20 instrumental in helping to bring about an overall settlement of  
21 issues relating to the viability of Aurora Bank, an important  
22 asset of the estate.

23 I'm also satisfied that the creditors' committee has  
24 examined the transaction and supports the transaction. The  
25 motion is approved.



1 MR. PEREZ: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, the  
2 next matter on the agenda is the motion of the SunCal Master  
3 debtors for relief from the automatic stay.

4 MR. MANKOVETSKIY: Good morning, Your Honor. Boris  
5 Mankovetskiy, Sills Cummis & Gross, on behalf of Al Siegel, the  
6 Chapter 11 trustee of certain SunCal debtors in cases pending  
7 in the Central District of California. With Your Honor's  
8 permission, I'd like to introduce to the Court Mr. Robert  
9 Marticello of the Weiland Golden firm who's the lead counsel on  
10 this matter and he will argue the motion. Mr. Marticello's pro  
11 hac papers have been submitted to Your Honor and the order is  
12 pending, I presume. But we would ask your permission to allow  
13 Mr. Marticello to speak.

14 THE COURT: The pro hac vice admission will be deemed  
15 granted --

16 MR. MANKOVETSKIY: Thank you, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: -- nunc pro tunc to the first words  
18 spoken.

19 MR. MARTICELLO: Good morning, Your Honor. Robert  
20 Marticello of Weiland Golden on behalf of Al Siegel, the  
21 Chapter 11 trustee for the SunCal debtors. Thank you for  
22 allowing me to address the Court today.

23 The trustee's requesting relief from the automatic  
24 stay is necessary to fulfill his statutory duties, administer  
25 the assets of the SunCal Master estates and to resolve any



1 claims and liens that relate to those assets. We think the  
2 Sonnex factors overwhelmingly support granting the motion.

3 THE COURT: Can I just break in for one second? I  
4 don't mean to interrupt the flow of your argument with respect  
5 to the Sonnex factors but I'm sure you're aware that I have  
6 recently dealt with some other issues relating to the SunCal  
7 parties. And I just want to clarify whether or not you  
8 represent the same trustee or a different trustee that was  
9 reported to have been withdrawing certain motions that I heard  
10 a few months ago. I'm not sure how many trustees are involved  
11 in the SunCal bankruptcy cases in California.

12 MR. MARTICELLO: The tru -- Mr. Siegel is the trustee  
13 in four cases. He is not the trustee in the cases that were  
14 referred to as the "affiliated SunCal matters". Those are  
15 entirely different cases.

16 THE COURT: Okay. There's a trustee who's represented  
17 by William Lobel?

18 MR. MARTICELLO: Correct. Correct.

19 THE COURT: And that's a different person altogether?

20 MR. MARTICELLO: That's correct.

21 THE COURT: Okay. I'm just trying to understand the  
22 players.

23 MR. MARTICELLO: No, I understand. As I was saying, I  
24 believe the Sonnex factors overwhelmingly support the motion.  
25 But I'd like to focus on what I think are typically the most



1 significant factors which are judicial economy and a balance of  
2 the harms.

3 The trustee absolutely needs stay relief to administer  
4 the assets of the SunCal Master estates, to move those cases  
5 forward. The parties attempted settlement discussions for over  
6 a year but unfortunately were unable to reach an agreement.  
7 And the trustee has no alternative but to pursue other  
8 alternatives in those cases. And, in fact, LCPI has criticized  
9 the trustee for not moving forward sooner.

10 In administering the SunCal estates, the parties are  
11 going to have to deal with the validity of the liens and the  
12 issues related to LCPI's claims. So it's inevitable. And the  
13 California court is the most appropriate forum to deal with  
14 these issues. California court has exclusive jurisdiction over  
15 the properties. It's the only Court that can order the sale,  
16 consider the sale motion relief and because it's the only Court  
17 that can order the sale of the properties, it's going to have  
18 to deal with the issues related to the validity of LCPI's  
19 liens. To deny the motion to require that the trustee pursue  
20 claims in this forum would create a situation where we have a  
21 potential for inconsistent rulings and duplicitous litigation  
22 because we're going to have to deal with these issues in both  
23 forums. Again, a sale motion to deny credit bid rights or sale  
24 free and clear, the issue is going to be the disputes as to  
25 LCPI's liens as to validity and priority.



1 So when the goal of bankruptcy is to have one forum  
2 that adjudicates all of the issues, there's only one court here  
3 that can do that and that's California.

4 THE COURT: Well, there's an argument that this is the  
5 Court that can do it as well since the trustee, I believe,  
6 filed proofs of claim here.

7 MR. MARTICELLO: That's correct. And --

8 THE COURT: So the argument cuts both ways. It's  
9 either here or there.

10 MR. MARTICELLO: I don't think it does because this  
11 Court cannot adjudicate the property, cannot order the sale of  
12 the property. Again, the California court will decide these  
13 issues to some extent.

14 THE COURT: But I can determine whether or not you  
15 have a valid claim against the Lehman estate. And that claim  
16 is based upon, I think, the complaint that you're preparing to  
17 file if you get stay relief in California.

18 MR. MARTICELLO: Correct. To the extent that this  
19 Court has jurisdiction to adjudicate an avoidance action claim  
20 or the action to -- or the claim to equitably subordinate  
21 LCPI's lien and claim, this Court could do so. But again, I  
22 think when you have a situation that the California court's  
23 going to have to deal with these issues and this Court will  
24 only do so if we pursue that claim in this forum, it makes  
25 sense that you do everything in one forum.



1 THE COURT: I understand the argument. What I don't  
2 understand is the timing. Why are you here now?

3 MR. MARTICELLO: The reason we're here now is, again,  
4 we spent a year -- over a year negotiating with LCPI. And  
5 unfortunately, it fell apart. So once LCPI terminated the term  
6 sheet, which was at the end of March --

7 THE COURT: You're saying it fell apart as if there  
8 was some force of nature as opposed to human beings.

9 MR. MARTICELLO: No. It was, again, as stated in the  
10 brief, Fidelity, the title insurance company, objected to the  
11 compromise and that objection raised what ended up being an  
12 ambiguous term in the term sheet. And the parties materially  
13 disagreed as to the interpretation of the term sheet. And the  
14 trustee could have went forward with that term sheet. But it  
15 was our -- it was the trustee's --

16 THE COURT: You're saying the trustee could have moved  
17 forward with that term sheet?

18 MR. MARTICELLO: Well, if he accepted LCPI's  
19 interpretation. But it was the trustee's belief that LCPI's  
20 interpretation was contrary to the parties' intent and would  
21 have resulted in zero dollars to the unsecured creditors of  
22 those estates. We could --

23 THE COURT: Have you abandoned efforts to try to  
24 resolve these disagreements? Because looking at the exhibits  
25 attached to Mr. Steinberg's declaration, it appears that there



1 was a remarkably detailed settlement agreement with everything  
2 that conceivably could have been covered, covered. And then  
3 there's a problem and instead of solving the problem, you're  
4 here to start litigation.

5 MR. MARTICELLO: We attempted to solve the problem.

6 THE COURT: How?

7 MR. MARTICELLO: There were -- as stated in LCPI's  
8 brief, there was a subsequent proposal. But it was patently  
9 unacceptable to the trustee. The parties attempted to  
10 negotiate a resolution to resolve the dispute. But they were  
11 so far apart that they were unable to do so. And again, it  
12 came down to the fact that the trustee did not believe that the  
13 term sheet as interpreted by LCPI or even as proposed to be  
14 revised would have provided zero value to the unsecured  
15 creditors of that estate. The professionals and trustee's fees  
16 would have been paid. But there would have been zero value for  
17 the unsecured creditors. And so the trustee believed, in the  
18 exercise of his fiduciary duties, it wasn't acceptable.

19 THE COURT: Well, there's an argument that there's no  
20 value there for the unsecured creditors anyway because the  
21 assets are deeply under water.

22 MR. MARTICELLO: That's true. But we do believe we  
23 have valid claims against LCPI to avoid this lien.

24 THE COURT: Yeah. But those claims were settled in a  
25 settlement agreement nine months ago.



1 MR. MARTICELLO: But the compromise was never  
2 documented and, again, the parties were unable to reach a  
3 binding agreement.

4 THE COURT: To what extent is this litigation an echo  
5 of the litigation that the other SunCal debtors intend to  
6 pursue in California and the motion for stay relief which was  
7 brought here a few months ago? One of my concerns here is that  
8 this is a me-too.

9 MR. MARTICELLO: Your Honor, I'm not that familiar  
10 with the --

11 THE COURT: You're aware that there was litigation  
12 brought in this court by the SunCal voluntary debtors seeking  
13 stay relief; that the motion for stay relief was denied; that  
14 there were issues relating to a transaction with Fenway that  
15 prompted that litigation; that there was a motion for a stay  
16 pending appeal which was also denied; and that there's an  
17 appeal currently pending in the district court all relating to  
18 litigation which, as I understand it, is currently pending  
19 before the Ninth Circuit relating to whether or not equitable  
20 subordination litigation can properly be brought in California  
21 without first obtaining stay relief here.

22 MR. MARTICELLO: I understand --

23 THE COURT: You're aware of all that?

24 MR. MARTICELLO: I am aware of all that. I believe  
25 that the facts for that particular case are entirely different.



1 I read the transcript that was attached to the opposition  
2 pleading.

3 We -- the trustee did not pursue an equitable  
4 subordination action first. What we did was we marketed the  
5 properties -- and this goes back to the question that Your  
6 Honor originally posed, was why are we here now. Once the term  
7 sheet was terminated, we retained a broker. We marketed the  
8 properties. We negotiated with multiple buyers. We've engaged  
9 in due diligence. We wanted to bring this case to a point  
10 where we could move and move forward once we obtained stay  
11 relief from Your Honor.

12 But as far as the other matters, we've done everything  
13 differently than that particular group of SunCal entities. We  
14 didn't go forward with the litigation first and then when we  
15 lost on appeal come here and say well, please give us stay  
16 relief. We're asking this Court to allow us to go forward  
17 first.

18 And I don't think that the Ninth Circuit's decision  
19 will moot this motion. Even if the Ninth Circuit reverses the  
20 BAP and says that equitable subordination does not violate the  
21 automatic stay when it's defensive in relation to a proof of  
22 claim, this Court would still have to grant this motion as to  
23 the sale motion relief. So even if the Ninth Circuit --  
24 regardless of how the Ninth Circuit decides that particular  
25 appeal, this motion will need to be decided.



1 THE COURT: Do you have a stalking horse bidder  
2 contract today?

3 MR. MARTICELLO: Yes, we do. And I believe it was  
4 filed last night. And we sent a copy to your chambers this  
5 morning.

6 THE COURT: I haven't seen it.

7 MR. MARTICELLO: I know it's very short notice. And I  
8 believe we have another copy here.

9 MR. MANKOVETSKIY: We have a copy, Your Honor. But  
10 indeed it was filed last night.

11 THE COURT: I just want to know what that contract  
12 provides.

13 MR. MANKOVETSKIY: Your Honor, actually, I was en  
14 route and have not -- may I approach, Your Honor?

15 THE COURT: Has a copy been provided to other counsel?

16 MR. MANKOVETSKIY: I have extra copies for them, too.

17 THE COURT: Yes --

18 MR. MANKOVETSKIY: They may have one but --

19 (Pause)

20 THE COURT: Okay. You don't need to go into it now.  
21 I was just wondering if you had it.

22 MR. MARTICELLO: We do, Your Honor. And in a  
23 nutshell, it's a sale free and clear of forty million dollars  
24 in cash. We are currently in escrow. And that really goes  
25 to -- when you consider the balance of the harms, this is one



1 of the biggest harms that the trustee has put in significant  
2 time and energy into obtaining a offer to sell the properties.  
3 And if this Court denies the motion -- the buyers would walk.  
4 There's no question about that. If the trustee cannot obtain  
5 approval of an asset purchase agreement, there's no buyer out  
6 there that's going to sign one.

7 THE COURT: But as I understand the original  
8 settlement that you had with Lehman, the property was to be  
9 sold under and pursuant to a plan of reorganization not as part  
10 of a -- an intermediate 363 sale which is a bridge to  
11 litigation over the proceeds. This is a very different kind of  
12 arrangement. I'm frankly baffled by the trustee's business  
13 judgment. I'd like you to explain it.

14 MR. MARTICELLO: Well, again -- well, first, the  
15 California bankruptcy court will decide all these issues. I  
16 mean, if the sale proves not --

17 THE COURT: But you're here right now and I'm asking  
18 you a direct question --

19 MR. MARTICELLO: I understand.

20 THE COURT: -- about your client's business judgment.  
21 What is the business judgment that says this is the right time  
22 to sell this property and that it will maximize value?

23 MR. MARTICELLO: We've spent a significant time  
24 marketing the properties. These are the highest offers that  
25 we've gotten to date. It's an all cash forty million dollar



1 offer. There are overbidders. There will be continuous --  
2 there will be other marketing efforts prior to the sale and an  
3 overbid proceeding. And, Your Honor, these properties  
4 together, are 5,000 acres -- over 5,000 acres. There's  
5 continuing issues with these properties. The longer we hold  
6 them, the more issues arise with health and safety, making sure  
7 there's no vandalism, complying with municipal regulations.  
8 And there are numerous disputes with LCPI over use of cash  
9 collateral. So there's a lot of cost in just holding these  
10 properties. So the trustee has to do something. And --

11 THE COURT: Yes. But you're also proposing depriving  
12 Lehman of its credit bid rights. That's going to be very hotly  
13 litigated. And you're likely to create more administrative  
14 expense than you're going to avoid. I don't understand why you  
15 want to do this.

16 MR. MARTICELLO: One, it's a matter of what the  
17 options are to the trustee. And again, we think that we can  
18 deny LCPI's credit bid rights because its claims are a bona  
19 fide dispute and its liens are a bona fide dispute. If we're  
20 wrong, the motion will be denied. But LCPI will have a chance  
21 to defend that and the California bankruptcy court will  
22 consider it. But if we're right, we'll generate significant  
23 unencumbered cash that he can distribute to the unsecured  
24 creditors.

25 THE COURT: So this is just another example of bi-



1 coastal litigation in order to gain litigation advantage.

2 MR. MARTICELLO: I don't think so. We're not trying  
3 to gain litigation advantage. We're trying to be on --

4 THE COURT: Of course you are. Of course you are.  
5 You're here seeking the ability to do something adverse to the  
6 Lehman estate in a foreign bankruptcy court in order to advance  
7 the interest of unsecured creditors in that case and, in  
8 effect, abandoning a fully documented settlement agreement by  
9 saying there are issues you can't resolve. It's a tactical  
10 move. It's pretty clear to me. Are you telling me it's not?

11 MR. MARTICELLO: Well, yes, we are attempting to get  
12 stay relief to do what Your Honor just said. The settlement  
13 agreement fell apart because the parties could not reach an  
14 agreement.

15 THE COURT: It fell apart because you chose not to  
16 pursue resolution of the disputes.

17 MR. MARTICELLO: I mean -- we attempted to settle. It  
18 didn't work. The parties were not able to reach an agreement.  
19 But we spent over a year trying to do that.

20 THE COURT: Not according to the papers I've read.  
21 You spent some time and then abandoned.

22 MR. MARTICELLO: Well, the initial settlement  
23 negotiations took over a year. And then when the disagreement  
24 arose, I'm not sure -- Mr. Reiss may be a better party to  
25 address that issue 'cause he was actually involved in the



1 discussions.

2 THE COURT: So you invest a year in a settlement, have  
3 a problem relating to some mechanics' lien claims and then  
4 decide to abandon that very carefully crafted settlement and  
5 instead pursue scorched-earth litigation. That's what I'm  
6 hearing.

7 MR. MARTICELLO: It wasn't a minor issue, Your Honor.  
8 That's all I can say about the disagreement. It was a  
9 substantial issue. I mean, the trustee can't go forward and  
10 ask for a --

11 THE COURT: I don't need to get into the merits of the  
12 negotiation that relates to a bankruptcy case which is not in  
13 front of me. The only thing that's in front of me is your  
14 request for stay relief. And let's go into the Sonnex factors  
15 in light of all this colloquy.

16 MR. MARTICELLO: Okay. To go back to what I was  
17 saying. When we're looking for one Court to adjudicate the  
18 issues, the California bankruptcy court's the best position to  
19 do that. When you look at the balance of the harms, if the  
20 motion is denied, the buyers will walk, will lose the  
21 opportunity to sell the properties. The trustee -- the  
22 administration of the SunCal Master estates will be paralyzed.  
23 We cannot move the cases forward other than seek use of cash  
24 collateral to maintain the status quo which LCPI objects to. I  
25 mean, so -- that's -- when Your Honor says it's a strategic --



1 we're looking for a strategic advantage, we're just looking for  
2 equal footing because we really can't do anything if this  
3 motion is denied because LCPI's liens and claims have to be  
4 dealt with. They have to be dealt with.

5 THE COURT: Why can't you go back to the settlement  
6 table, take a look at the document that you spent a year  
7 creating and solve the problem? Whether it's big or small,  
8 it's clearly solvable.

9 MR. MARTICELLO: Your Honor, we tried to do that and  
10 it just didn't work.

11 THE COURT: When did you last try to do that? Give me  
12 a date.

13 MR. MARTICELLO: Just one moment, Your Honor. Mr.  
14 Reiss was actually involved in the discussions and probably  
15 would have a better idea.

16 MR. REISS: Would Your Honor like me to address the  
17 Court on that issue?

18 THE COURT: I just want to know when last there was an  
19 attempt to settle the dispute which is allegedly impossible to  
20 settle.

21 MR. REISS: Your Honor, Daniel Reiss, Levene, Neale,  
22 Bender, Rankin & Brill for the official committee of the  
23 unsecured creditors in the SunCal cases. There have been  
24 discussions as of yesterday and even this morning and late last  
25 week. The settlement negotiations -- there were settlement



1 negotiations subsequent to and prior to and after the  
2 withdrawal of the motion under 9019. There was a significant  
3 economic issue that the trustee, the committee and the debtor  
4 and the committee for Lehman Commercial Paper could not bridge  
5 that gap. Because they could not bridge that gap -- and it is  
6 a large number -- the trustee then decided to move forward --  
7 move the case forward with respect to a sale for the reasons  
8 that Mr. Martina (sic) has said, because it's costly to  
9 maintain these properties, because there are also issues  
10 potentially of a statute of limitation with regard to certain  
11 causes of action.

12 THE COURT: That's not a big issue. You can always  
13 get a toll on the agreement.

14 MR. REISS: Oh, okay. Grant -- I agree, Your Honor.  
15 I think the issue of carrying costs and risks to the Chapter 11  
16 estate of managing over 5,000 acres of property where Lehman  
17 Commercial Paper is objecting to the use of cash collateral,  
18 there is a point at which the trustee, in its business  
19 judgment, needs to move the case forward. The only logical way  
20 to do that is to administer the properties.

21 THE COURT: I hear what you're saying but my question  
22 was when last there was an attempt to settle the disputes. And  
23 you're telling me it's happened as recently as this morning  
24 that you've had conversations, is that right?

25 MR. REISS: I received an e-mail this morning that I



1 believe came from the lender group's counsel. There has been a  
2 gap. There's been a three or four month gap of really lack of  
3 negotiations. But there certainly were negotiations subsequent  
4 to the trustee's expression to Lehman Commercial that the  
5 settlement wasn't going to work out the way that was intended  
6 to create a dividend for general unsecured creditors.

7 THE COURT: Now do I understand that you have been  
8 personally involved in these negotiations?

9 MR. REISS: Certain aspects of them, Your Honor, yes.

10 THE COURT: Okay. And is it correct that there have  
11 been no serious attempts to resolve the disagreements relating  
12 to the documented settlement agreement for the last three or  
13 four months until perhaps that e-mail today?

14 MR. REISS: There was more than just the e-mail today.  
15 There was --

16 THE COURT: Answer --

17 MR. REISS: -- correspondence late last week.

18 THE COURT: Answer the first question. Is it correct  
19 that there have been no serious attempts to deal with the  
20 breakdown in the settlement negotiations for a period of  
21 approximately three or four months?

22 MR. REISS: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right. That's really my question.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. REISS: Thank you, Your Honor. So the --



1 THE COURT: That's all I want to hear from you.

2 MR. REISS: Oh. Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you.

4 MR. MARTICELLO: So it would have been around March  
5 that the parties ceased settlement discussions. And I would  
6 submit it's because we're moving forward that LCPI reached out  
7 today or last night. If we had done nothing the period of no  
8 discussions would have been longer. But it's because we're  
9 moving forward that discussions have been renewed. And we're  
10 open to discussions. But the point is, the trustee has to  
11 pursue other alternatives, has to move these cases forward and  
12 has already executed an APA and is doing so.

13 And just to summarize my point on the harm, Your  
14 Honor, if the motion is denied today, the potential buyers will  
15 be lost, will be unable to move those cases forward. And  
16 without the ability to test the validity of Lehman's liens,  
17 move the cases in some other direction, it's really just a  
18 matter of time before LCPI gets stay relief. And that would be  
19 prejudicial to the creditors because if LCPI is able to obtain  
20 stay relief on liens that we have valid claims against and we  
21 don't have the opportunity to prove the merits of those claims,  
22 that's prejudicial.

23 THE COURT: Well, what you're really telling me,  
24 cutting through your remarks, is that you want the opportunity  
25 to take property away from this bankruptcy estate. You want



1 the ability to pursue litigation claims that will deprive  
2 Lehman's creditors of Lehman's asset. Lehman's asset being the  
3 5,000 acres you just described in California. What you're  
4 really saying is give me stay relief so I can take action  
5 that's detrimental to the interest of the Lehman estate,  
6 correct?

7 MR. MARTICELLO: Correct, but they will have --

8 THE COURT: How can you possibly prevail if you say  
9 correct to that question?

10 MR. MARTICELLO: Because the harm -- because they will  
11 have an opportunity to vet everything we're going to do in  
12 California. But granting the motion, they have failed to  
13 identify any harm. They said it's going to be costly. It's  
14 going to interfere with our case. Vague assertions. They've  
15 already demonstrated they have the ability to participate  
16 actively in both cases -- are going to do so regardless of what  
17 happens today. The cost? As I said, the litigation's  
18 inevitable. It's not going to get less costly. It's going to  
19 be more costly because there's holding costs. And again, every  
20 time we file a cash collateral motion, there's a dispute.  
21 These disputes need to be resolved. The most efficient  
22 economical way to do that is to grant the motion and let us go  
23 forward.

24 THE COURT: Isn't the most economical and efficient  
25 way to go back to the table and solve the problem whether it's



1 big or small and use the structure that you've already invested  
2 a year in developing in order to develop a plan of  
3 reorganization that's consensual with Lehman and it gets  
4 something for creditors? Isn't that the most efficient thing  
5 for you to do?

6 MR. MARTICELLO: It would be if it was possible. But  
7 the parties -- this isn't a case -- I think, like the other  
8 SunCal case, where no discussions have taken place. The  
9 parties spent a significant amount of time trying to settle  
10 these disputes. We tried to do that first. It didn't work.  
11 This is the trustee's alternative. And I don't think it's  
12 prejudicial to the Lehman estate because they're going to get  
13 what they're entitled to. If the Lehman has valid liens, we'll  
14 lose. But we should have the opportunity to prove our claims.  
15 And again, they've identified no specific harm if this motion  
16 is granted. And we've identified several if it's denied.

17 THE COURT: All right. I think I should hear from  
18 other counsel. And looking at how crowded the courtroom is  
19 today, we have a standing room only crowd of lawyers who are  
20 all charging their clients to listen to you argue this issue.

21 MR. MARTICELLO: I understand, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: So I think that there is, even in  
23 presenting the motion, an administrative burden to the Lehman  
24 estate. But that's just an observation about the number of  
25 people observing this.



1 MR. MARTICELLO: I understand, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. MARTICELLO: Thank you.

4 MR. PEREZ: Your Honor, I'll try to be as brief as  
5 possible. I do have a witness here that I could proffer, Mr.  
6 Brusco. But let me just highlight three things. Number one,  
7 with respect to the limitations issue, that's not an issue at  
8 all. We can enter into a tolling agreement. They filed a  
9 proof of claim. That's not an issue. So to the extent that  
10 they just want the ability to bring litigation, that raises  
11 many of the same issues that are already pending in front of  
12 the BAP. That's not an issue whatsoever.

13 So, Your Honor, when you go to the motion to lift stay  
14 so that they can sell property, their cause is, is that the  
15 settlement is dead. And, Your Honor, with all due respect to  
16 my co-counsel, it's just simply not correct. The difference --  
17 the difference between the bid and the ask after they came back  
18 and said we can't do this and then we made a counterproposal is  
19 630,000 dollars. That is the difference. Your Honor, today  
20 we're making a large dent in that. So to say that we're miles  
21 apart, the difference is 630,000 dollars. And on all of these  
22 allegations about it was unacceptable and we weren't going to  
23 get anything and the unsecured creditors weren't going to  
24 receive anything, I mean, that's all absolutely -- there's no  
25 factual basis for that, Your Honor. So to the extent that the



1 cause is that the settlement -- I think the only -- the only  
2 thing that the Court can surmise on the basis of the record in  
3 front of you is exactly what the Court said. They've decided  
4 to abandon this and pursue litigation. That's it. There's no  
5 other -- there's no cause as a result of the fact that we can't  
6 come together because it was 630,000 dollars. I dare say that  
7 people trying to get to a settlement can breach 630,000 dollars  
8 in the context of both of these cases.

9 The allegations about the -- we have 5,000 acres and  
10 stuff like -- they also have fourteen -- approximately fourteen  
11 million dollars of cash collateral that's been depleted -- you  
12 know, from twenty million starting at the beginning of the case  
13 in order to maintain the property. So that's not an argument.

14 Yes, we did object the last time they sought -- use  
15 cash collateral because they didn't -- we hadn't heard anything  
16 after the last proposal. But if Mr. Brusco testifies, and I'm  
17 happy to proffer him, I mean, he's going to say, we made this  
18 counteroffer. We heard nothing until I called as a result of  
19 this case and said what's going on. I mean, this is  
20 ridiculous. Why can't we settle this?

21 THE COURT: I don't think I need testimony. This is  
22 the first hearing on a contested matter. This testimony is not  
23 appropriate except in extraordinary circumstances under our  
24 local rules and the case management order. And I'm familiar  
25 generally with the dispute. The issue here is a fairly



1 standard application of Sonnax factors to a nonstandard  
2 situation because it involves parallel bankruptcy proceedings.  
3 I'm very familiar with the SunCal cases as a result of a motion  
4 for relief from the stay that was brought in November of 2008.  
5 So this has been part of the landscape of the Lehman bankruptcy  
6 case for a very long time.

7 What do you say to the Sonnax factors?

8 MR. PEREZ: Well, Your Honor, I can certainly go  
9 through them. And I don't think that -- I mean, I don't  
10 believe judicial economy is going to be served by litigating  
11 this thing ad nauseum when there hasn't even been an effort to  
12 settle this. We're perfectly happy -- if the Court says, you  
13 got to go to mediation, we're perfectly happy to do that to see  
14 -- if we need adult supervision, I mean, I don't think we do,  
15 but if the Court thinks we need adult supervision to see if we  
16 can breach a gap, we're perfectly happy to do that. But as it  
17 relates to that California is the most expedient forum, we just  
18 don't think that spending millions and millions of dollars on  
19 litigation when you haven't even tried to broach the 630,000  
20 dollar difference makes any sense whatsoever.

21 THE COURT: Let me parse the question a little more  
22 finely. Reading the papers with some care, I find that there  
23 really is a two-part question here. One is whether or not  
24 there should be stay relief to pursue litigation. The other is  
25 whether there should be stay relief to pursue a sale of the



1 property. My sense from looking at some of the papers that had  
2 been filed is that maybe the sale of the property wouldn't be  
3 as major an issue from Lehman's perspective as having  
4 litigation unleashed in California. How do the Sonnax factors  
5 apply as to their request that this forty million dollar  
6 transaction be pursued?

7 MR. PEREZ: Couple things, Your Honor. They did  
8 request, basically, that we be stripped of our credit lien  
9 rights. You know and that implies that we don't have a good  
10 lien. So to the extent that their premise in their sale motion  
11 is that we're being stripped of our credit lien rights then  
12 that -- the Sonnax factors clearly fall in our favor on that  
13 issue because, clearly, the balance of the harms are going to  
14 be with respect to us.

15 And the settlement that was negotiated over a year and  
16 which the Court -- you know, the statements made by the trustee  
17 in connection with the compromise motion -- I mean, they're  
18 just running away from those statements that it would be  
19 protractive litigation to determine the liens. All of those  
20 things that they said in order to get the motion approved which  
21 was set for hearing and continued and continued as a result of  
22 this alleged ambiguity. They would have to completely back off  
23 for all of those things in order for the Sonnax factors to say  
24 that it's judicially economic to do it and that the balance of  
25 the harms don't tip in our favor.



1           Your Honor, in our pleading, we said that to the  
2           extent that the Court conditioned the automatic -- lifting of  
3           the automatic stay with our credit bid rights and after we  
4           determine that, in fact, we don't have a settlement and we  
5           can't broach the 630,000 dollars then I think that that might  
6           be appropriate. And remember, Your Honor, Lehman acts here --  
7           Lehman has been -- this motion is in Lehman's capacity as a  
8           lender. Lehman is also the collateral agent. I don't  
9           represent Lehman in connection with their being the collateral  
10          agent. Cadwalader does that. So I'm here representing Lehman  
11          only as a lender. And it has pieces of the first, the second  
12          and the third lien, all liens on the property.

13                So as it relates to their ability to basically deny  
14          our right to credit bid and to protect what was the basis of  
15          the prior settlement, I think that implies the balance of the  
16          harms is in our favor on that, Your Honor.

17                THE COURT: Well, assuming for the sake of discussion  
18          that it is the bankruptcy court in California that determines  
19          whether or not you have a credit bid right, and assuming  
20          further that Lehman has access to cash to protect its positions  
21          with respect to the value of the property and could even be a  
22          bidder -- which, if I recall correctly, was an issue in the  
23          Philadelphia Newspapers case. Assuming I just rather simply  
24          were to decide that allowing the sale of the property to  
25          proceed does not harm Lehman Brothers because you can always go



1 into bankruptcy court in California and persuade, if you're  
2 successful, Judge Smith that you should be entitled to pursue  
3 your credit bidding rights, how are you hurt?

4 MR. PEREZ: Well, Your Honor, a couple of things.  
5 Number one, Lehman only holds thirty percent of the first lien  
6 debt. So we have a syndicate that has seventy percent. We  
7 also have fifteen percent of the second lien and we have sixty-  
8 five percent of the third lien. So a large amount of Lehman's  
9 exposure is not in the first lien. So we only control less  
10 than a third of the first lien. So the Court's initial  
11 comment -- I don't -- that premise I don't think is necessarily  
12 correct.

13 THE COURT: Where's counsel for that entity?

14 MR. PEREZ: Well, it's a syndicate of about fifteen  
15 banks.

16 THE COURT: So who's representing that syndicate?

17 MR. PEREZ: Cadwalader represents Lehman as agent for  
18 that syndicate.

19 THE COURT: Did they join in your papers or did they  
20 file separate papers?

21 MR. PEREZ: No, Your Honor, 'cause it was directed at  
22 Lehman as a lender. It wasn't directed -- it didn't implicate  
23 the other parties or not in bankruptcy.

24 THE COURT: So if those other parties have the ability  
25 upon a sale of the property to protect their interests, can't



1 Lehman, in effect, be part of the crowd and protected by the  
2 benefits of the crowd's actions?

3 MR. PEREZ: Your Honor, I believe that if Mr. Brusco  
4 were to testify on that particular issue, I think the answer is  
5 no because some of the other members of that crowd are CLOs and  
6 CDOs which don't have the ability to do that. Very different  
7 than what the position is that Lehman finds itself in. So I  
8 don't believe that's correct.

9 But also, Your Honor, we first learned of a possible -  
10 - of a marketing of the property or of the fact that they've  
11 been out there marketing and they have this thing -- we first  
12 learned of this just a few days ago after I started  
13 conversations in response to this. We have no visibili --  
14 we're the largest creditor. The first, second and third liens  
15 are owed 395 million dollars plus. We learned about this stuff  
16 just in the last hours, not even days, not even weeks. So  
17 after we made our last proposal, there was nothing until the  
18 discussions which, frankly -- which I started. And after that  
19 occurred, Your Honor, we received this -- I mean, we saw this  
20 offer last night at 9:00 for the first time. We didn't know  
21 anything about any of this until maybe the day or two before  
22 that. So the fact -- when they're saying there's been this  
23 marketing process, they have a motion on file to hire a broker  
24 and they want 50,000 dollars to start the marketing process.  
25 So all of this talk about this has been going on for a long



1 time and people have been marketing it for a long time and this  
2 has all been going on, that's absolutely news to the person --  
3 the lienholder on the property that has a substantial stake on  
4 the property.

5 So to that extent, Your Honor, that has not been --  
6 that is not -- yeah, they came in with a document this morning  
7 or last night. We haven't had a chance to review it. Don't  
8 know who it is or any of the bona fides. Not to say that it  
9 might not be appropriate and we're certainly not saying that it  
10 isn't appropriate, but we just don't know. And there's  
11 certainly not been a marketing process that we've been involved  
12 in or that we've had anything to do with. This is all kind  
13 of -- it is a litigation tactic, unfortunately, and it  
14 shouldn't be.

15 THE COURT: You're saying the sale of the property  
16 that's proposed is part of the litigation tactic?

17 MR. PEREZ: No. I don't think the sale of the  
18 property is part of the litigation tactic but having it sprung  
19 on us and not engaging us in this process is certainly part of  
20 the litigation process (sic).

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MR. PEREZ: We can't even say yea or nay on it because  
23 we don't know.

24 THE COURT: Okay. We've given this quite a lot of  
25 time already. What's King & Spaulding's role in all this?



1 MR. PEREZ: Your Honor, King & Spaulding represents  
2 LCPI as a lender in that specific property. And the reason  
3 that occurred, Your Honor, is at the beginning of the case,  
4 there's another Lehman entity that is now managed by third  
5 parties which had originally, at the very beginning of the  
6 case, was managed by A&M. And so, it was felt at the time that  
7 since they were managed by A&M that we couldn't represent them.  
8 So that's the difference.

9 There are other Lehman -- the other -- Lehman  
10 Lakeside, which is a fund, is now managed separately and  
11 represented by Kirkland & Ellis. And, in fact, LCPI is  
12 somewhat adverse to them at this point.

13 THE COURT: By Kirkland & Ellis or King & Spaulding?

14 MR. PEREZ: Kirkland & Ellis represents Lehman  
15 Lakeside. King & Spaulding represents LCPI in conne -- as a  
16 lender in the California action.

17 THE COURT: All right. I'm sorry I asked because this  
18 becomes more complicated than I even thought it was. Okay.

19 Is there anything more on this from the trustee's  
20 perspective? I think I've heard enough to make some statements  
21 that I hope are helpful. But I'll hear anything more you want  
22 to say. I think I know the issues.

23 MR. MARTICELLO: May I just make one brief point, Your  
24 Honor?

25 THE COURT: Sure.



1 MR. MARTICELLO: I think what Your Honor identified as  
2 being kind of a two-issue analysis is correct. And I think a  
3 fair compromise is to let us to go forward with the sale motion  
4 relief in light of LCPI's willingness to enter into a tolling  
5 arrangement. We can deal with the litigation later. But we  
6 can move forward with the sale relief. Every harm LCPI stood  
7 up here and identified is an issue that will be dealt with on  
8 regular notice in California: marketing, the price, the credit  
9 bid. It will all be dealt with. They're already participating  
10 in both forums. He's identified three counsel just standing up  
11 here today that are involved in the case. So they'll be  
12 protected. That's all I have, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Okay. I know that the creditors'  
14 committee filed some responsive papers that reserved rights on  
15 the question of the sale of the property. So let me give  
16 committee counsel an opportunity to comment on that.

17 MR. O'DONNELL: Yes, Your Honor. I think we would  
18 support the debtor in all of the other positions they've taken.  
19 We were of the view until -- and when we filed our pleading,  
20 there was no APA on file. We now have an APA that we got it  
21 late last night. There are no bidding procedures or any other  
22 indication as to how the sale process has been conducted to  
23 date or how it will be conducted going forward. And our view  
24 is the Court shouldn't be in a position to rule on the  
25 appropriateness of -- really, from the stay for a sale process.



1 It hasn't been adequately presented to the Court. So we would  
2 ask that they -- that at least the sale motion be made  
3 available before the Court rules on the relief requested.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 MR. PEREZ: Your Honor, can I just say one last thing?  
6 I apologize.

7 THE COURT: Sure.

8 MR. PEREZ: But -- and perhaps I want to make sure  
9 that I answered your question correctly. To the extent that  
10 the sale motion implies that our liens are going to be stripped  
11 and we were going to be denied our credit bid right, that is,  
12 in fact, a litigation tactic. So that's the result of that,  
13 Your Honor.

14 (Pause)

15 THE COURT: Okay. I understand the frustration of  
16 counsel for the trustee in the SunCal Master Debtors bankruptcy  
17 cases in California. But I also sense as a result of this  
18 argument and the information developed during colloquy that  
19 this really is a litigation tactic. I'm not saying there's  
20 anything wrong with the adoption of a litigation tactic in this  
21 case that may benefit the trustee in his negotiations and plan  
22 administration in California. But this emperor has no clothes.  
23 This is a unabashed attempt on the part of the trustee to take  
24 steps in California that are calculated to be detrimental to  
25 the interest of the Lehman estate.



1 I'm sensitive to the fact that this has been going on  
2 for a very long time. But I'm equally sensitive to the fact  
3 that, admittedly, for a period of three or four months, a very  
4 well developed agreement to settle all differences with Lehman  
5 appears to have been abandoned.

6 I'm not going to rule on the motion today. And I'm  
7 going to propose that it be carried to the next omnibus hearing  
8 where I may consider stay relief in connection with a sale  
9 process of the property that is otherwise consensual from the  
10 perspective of the Lehman estate. I'm also going to direct  
11 that the parties return to the negotiating table and endeavor  
12 between now and the next omnibus hearing to resolve all issues  
13 not just those relating to the sale process. I note that the  
14 original term sheet attached to Mr. Steinberg's declaration  
15 provides for a sale of the property pursuant to a plan. That  
16 suggests that the sale of the asset is not really the issue.  
17 It's the manner in which it's sold and the effect of the sale  
18 upon the rights of Lehman as secured creditor. The parties  
19 simply need to talk to one another again.

20 I'm otherwise reserving judgment on the motion and  
21 will consider it at the next omnibus hearing.

22 MR. PEREZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 MR. MARTICELLO: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 MR. PEREZ: I believe matter number 6 is a Jones Day  
25 matter, Your Honor --



1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MR. PEREZ: -- and I believe all the rest of them  
3 after that. May I be excused?

4 THE COURT: You may be.

5 (Pause)

6 THE COURT: You can't find a seat?

7 (Pause)

8 MR. ENGMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. Richard Engman of  
9 Jones Day on behalf of the partner LCPI in this case. Your  
10 Honor, we're here because on May 29th, 2010, Greenbrier  
11 Holdings LLC, an entity that LPCI (sic) is both a lender and an  
12 equity owner of, took the position for the first time that the  
13 filing of LPC -- excuse me, LCPI's Chapter 11 filing caused the  
14 forfeiture of LCPI's ownership interest, its membership  
15 interest in the LLC and that as a follow-on consequence of the  
16 loss of those membership interests, the elected mana -- LCPI's  
17 elected manager never -- effectively, never was a manager of  
18 Greenbrier. And as a follow-on consequence of that, for the  
19 last evidently twenty months, Greenbrier has been without a  
20 quorum of its board of managers.

21 The concern -- the immediate concern that we have,  
22 Your Honor, as Your Honor knows, and I was on the telephone  
23 call with you earlier in the week, there are certainly a number  
24 of other issues that the parties have been trying to work out  
25 and, frankly, we had believed we're making progress on right up



1 until May 29th. The immediate issue and cause for concern from  
2 LCPI was the effect of what I just stated: an entity that by  
3 the terms of its own governing documents, if their counsel, and  
4 again, we believe it's wrong on both the facts and the law, but  
5 the consequence of the position taken by Greenbrier's counsel  
6 has been to create a company that, by its own governing  
7 documents, can no longer act.

8 It might help and I know Your Honor has been through  
9 the pleadings and we did have a call on the phone. It might  
10 help to summarize some of the material facts and some of the  
11 history that went -- that -- between the parties before we got  
12 to where we are.

13 THE COURT: Well, since that telephone conference  
14 which, if I recall correctly, took place last week, and was  
15 dedicated to an emergency motion filed by Greenbrier Minerals  
16 in reference to whether it would need to file papers  
17 immediately after the July 4th holiday weekend and raising  
18 certain questions as to the compliance of the debtors with the  
19 provisions of the case management order, that was all resolved  
20 by agreement and by direction from the Court. I've read the  
21 papers that have been filed and I'm familiar with the facts.  
22 So I don't think it's necessary -- you're certainly free to do  
23 it -- to go through the facts. I know a lot more about the  
24 facts now than I did at the time of that telephone conference.  
25 And I have read the declarations of both Mr. McCarthy and Mr.



1 Furley (sic). So I'm pretty familiar with the facts.

2 MR. ENGMAN: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor. And we  
3 work -- we did appreciate Your Honor's time on that phone call.  
4 We did take Your Honor's direction seriously. One of Your  
5 Honor's directions was an attempt to not be here today.

6 THE COURT: Yes. And here you are.

7 MR. ENGMAN: We did take it seriously. Unfortunately,  
8 we haven't been successful. I did want to -- I think if it  
9 doesn't come clear -- if it doesn't come through clearly in our  
10 papers, to the extent this is -- seems as an attempt of control  
11 or takeover or the like, nothing -- by LCPI, that, frankly,  
12 just is not the case. LCPI, even prior to this action, did not  
13 have majority control of the board, couldn't take any action by  
14 itself on the board, needed at least one other manager to carry  
15 any motion, to carry any action, could do nothing by itself on  
16 its own. As part of in an effort to not be here today, we  
17 offered -- there's five managers on the board. Each one of  
18 them can have one vote. We'll only take one vote. We don't  
19 need the increase that's in there. Unfortunately, we haven't  
20 been able to resolve them on something like that.

21 I think some of the facts or at least pointing out  
22 some of the -- actually, I'll change actually. Before I get to  
23 the facts, because at the end of the day, I think the facts in  
24 reading the document, while relevant, if the position taken by  
25 Greenbrier wasn't dramatically and unequivocally just opposite



1 of the law, especially in this district, then the facts in  
2 reading them and being very specific about the terms would be  
3 important. But perhaps in an effort to move quicker, as the  
4 committee pointed out in the supplemental pleading in support  
5 that they filed, the Section 18.304 of the Delaware Limited  
6 Liability Act, which is the statute that Greenbrier is relying  
7 on for the proposition that upon twenty months ago LCPI's  
8 membership interests were forfeit, in pursuant to Section 541  
9 of the Bankruptcy Code, however, that provision would -- is  
10 unenforceable and has no -- and can't be relied on by  
11 Greenbrier.

12 In their papers, Greenbrier, while not mentioning  
13 541 -- in fact, I believe that they say in their papers the  
14 only provision that arguably might be applicable to prevent  
15 this ipso facto issue from applying is 365(e)(1). And their  
16 argument with respect to 365(e)(1) is that while ipso facto  
17 clauses, whether they be in the contract or as a consequence of  
18 law, are ordinarily unenforceable under Bankruptcy Code.  
19 (e)(2) represents a specific carve-out from the general rule.  
20 And they cite to the Milford case specifically for what I think  
21 they argue saves 18.304. The saving in the Milford case is a  
22 Delaware chancery court relying on -- looking at an opinion by  
23 Judge Farnan in the Delaware district court analyzed 18.304 not  
24 to cause a forfeiture in toto of membership interest but  
25 separated -- looked at cases applying 365(e)(2) and looked at



1 what was preempted -- what that Court felt was preempted and  
2 what it did apply to and said that participatory and certainly  
3 non -- excuse me, certainly economic rights whether the state  
4 law would abide it or not, that is an unenforceable ipso facto  
5 clause. But Milford drew a distinction between the noneconomic  
6 participatory rights that are inherent in the membership  
7 interest to conclude that (e)(2) saved the forfeiture --  
8 effectively, saved that aspect of 18.304 and made it applicable  
9 to cause the forfeiture of the noneconomic rights.

10 THE COURT: Let me ask you a question. Is there a  
11 dispute between the parties as to the forty-nine percent  
12 economic interest that Lehman has? Is there any dispute that  
13 you continue to retain that interest?

14 MR. ENGMAN: Not -- yes. Not for -- not in, I think,  
15 in anything that's relevant for our instant concern or for the  
16 merits here.

17 THE COURT: That's why I wanted to hone in on this.  
18 The economics. Let's just say for the sake of discussion that  
19 there's no dispute, that Lehman continues to hold forty-nine  
20 percent of the economics that hasn't been taken away under any  
21 reading of Delaware law, okay? Is this current dispute simply  
22 about governance?

23 MR. ENGMAN: Yes. The immediate dispute is. I think  
24 contrary -- it's a little difficult to follow sometimes  
25 because, contrary to their papers, I think underlying the



1 governance arguments made here and the -- that 18.304 doesn't  
2 affect our economic interest, their underlying argument is  
3 that, either as a matter of equity or the like, we shouldn't  
4 have forty-nine percent economically, not on account of 18.304  
5 but because of the alleged failure to fund on the part of  
6 Lehman as a lender, allegations that part of our subscription  
7 for the forty-nine percent was tied up in -- notwithstanding  
8 the -- I can't -- maybe I should get back into some of the  
9 expressed provisions of the operating agreement because  
10 notwithstanding the expressed provisions, the expressed  
11 integration clause that says no course of dealing, nothing else  
12 will change what's in the written document notwithstanding the  
13 provisions in the operating agreement that expressly say we  
14 have a forty-nine percent interest. Schedule A that lists us  
15 as having a forty-nine percent interest -- I believe it's  
16 Section 2.4 -- or, excuse me, 2.8 that obligates the board of  
17 managers to promptly modify and amend Schedule A to the extent  
18 there's any change to any of the membership interest  
19 notwithstanding that for the last twenty months Schedule A  
20 hasn't changed.

21 At every single meeting of the board, all of the  
22 minutes prepared by the corporate secretary of Greenbrier start  
23 with the proviso Present at the board were the following --  
24 were Bill Karis, Jack McCarth -- were managers, excuse me, Bill  
25 Karis, Jack McCarthy. Then it goes on to say, "In addition,



1 also attending was legal counsel, Don Malecki, and also  
2 attending and if there was anyone other than a manager or a  
3 legal counsel, identifies them as "Others that were attending".  
4 In each one of those minutes, we're referred to as a manager.  
5 Nothing has changed in the operating agreement. Every -- all  
6 the conduct along the way has treated us as a forty-nine  
7 percent owner and certainly a manager along the way. I believe  
8 the arguments are that notwithstanding that a course of dealing  
9 or a failure or the claims against us somehow reduce the -- our  
10 economic interest.

11 One of the reasons I don't want to get too tied in  
12 those, is that is the -- I mentioned before, I think that the  
13 declaration of Jack McCarthy also touches on it, prior to May  
14 25th. That is the area that I think Lehman Billiards' progress  
15 was being made on. Essentially, beginning in October of 2005,  
16 at least in earnest, the parties, for a significant period of  
17 time, have been discussing the situation and the right thing to  
18 do with Greenbrier. I think their general agreement that is  
19 something that would maximize the value of Greenbrier is in  
20 everyone's interest. The questions have been, I think, four-  
21 fold: whether that value would be maximized by a joint sale of  
22 Greenbrier together with a -- I'll call it a sister. It's not  
23 in a technical sense but a sister company called Midland Coal  
24 that produces low sulfur coal that -- and sells it to  
25 Greenbrier which Greenbrier mixes to meet its contracts.



1 Midland is majority owned by the CEO of Greenbrier. So the  
2 initial question was, is Greenbrier's value maximized, by  
3 selling it separately, apart from Midland figuring out if  
4 there's another way to get low sulfur coal, figuring out if the  
5 contracts are -- ought to stay in place or should we package  
6 them together and sell the two jointly.

7 The next effort, and I think the real sticking point  
8 is, if the decision is that packaging them together maximizes  
9 value, how do you allocate value? If a purchaser just is  
10 providing you with a purchase price for the package, how do you  
11 allocate amongst the two? LCPI's position has been, we need an  
12 independent -- an independent source to provide a view on  
13 value. Midland is indebted -- there's a fifty million dollar  
14 receivable to Greenbrier. There's -- whether or not, Midland  
15 is worth more than that receivable, and how much of any sale  
16 proceeds ought to go, in addition to just paying off Midland's  
17 debt, are questions that ought to be answered by an independent  
18 marketer and -- has been LCPI's view.

19 The other significant issue that I think progress was  
20 being made is the net amount of LCPI's claim against the  
21 company -- against Greenbrier. As Your Honor knows, LCPI is a  
22 lender with over 180 million outstanding. Greenbrier has  
23 asserted that a failure to fund on the part of LCPI caused  
24 damage and has filed a claim in this case. There had been  
25 negotiations regarding how to solve that. And then finally,



1 the last sharing related issue is, assuming there's  
2 proceeds -- excess proceeds from the Greenbrier -- from a  
3 Greenbrier maximization, how do you share them among the  
4 members with -- and that piece of it is, I think, where, does  
5 LCPI own forty-nine percent or should LCPI own forty-nine  
6 percent -- it's that last piece of all these puzzles where the  
7 forty-nine percent comes in.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Well, you've said a lot about how  
9 complex this is. And assume for a moment that you were  
10 successful today and I were to say motion granted, what have  
11 you realized as a result of that? And what of the multiple  
12 issues you've just described would be settled or resolved or  
13 determined? And my impression from what you've said is not  
14 very many because the only thing that would happen is that Mr.  
15 McCarthy's management rights, presumably, would be preserved  
16 but not necessarily in a final and definitive way because these  
17 are fundamental questions of contract interpretation in  
18 Delaware law.

19 If I were to grant your motion, it's not clear to me  
20 what I've done for you other than give you maybe a stronger  
21 negotiating hand in trying to resolve the other disputes that  
22 remain.

23 MR. ENGMAN: You know, I'm not sure that -- that's why  
24 I started with the premise of Your Honor's question was, it  
25 seems, if we win, not a lot has happened on all these disputes.



1 THE COURT: Do you agree?

2 MR. ENGMAN: Absolutely. And that's been the premise  
3 of what -- where I started, Your Honor, which was these other  
4 things have been thrown into this. But they're not the issue  
5 in front of the Court. The issue in front of the Court is the  
6 governance of this entity, and --

7 THE COURT: How can I resolve a governance dispute  
8 that's this subtle by granting a motion that's based upon  
9 enforcement of the stay?

10 MR. ENGMAN: I don't believe -- it's why another --  
11 why I started actually and I was going to get into the Footstar  
12 line of cases from Judge Hardin and also Judge Gerber's  
13 decision in Adelphia. I don't -- at the end of the day, I  
14 don't think it is that subtle.

15 What we're asking you to do, Your Honor, is find that  
16 what -- that LCPI did not forfeit its membership interest, did  
17 not forfeit its rights as a member under the operating  
18 agreement as a consequence of 18.30 -- as a consequence of its  
19 Chapter 11 filing. At the end of the day, if there's an  
20 argument to be had, either in negotiation, mediation, lifting  
21 the stay and going somewhere else, that whatever our membership  
22 interests are, ought to be reduced from forty-nine. They're  
23 free to make that, but at least in the moment, the agreement is  
24 very clear how the votes work and how a quorum is achieved.  
25 And the only reason that there isn't currently a quorum is



1 because of the argument that Lehman's --LCPI's membership  
2 interests were forfeited as a consequence of 18.304. Again, I  
3 think that that flies in the face of both 541(c) as well as  
4 365(e)(1), especially in the Southern District of New York  
5 which applies not the hypothetical test to whether a contract  
6 provision is enforceable under (e)(2), but the actual test.

7 This is the debtor; this is not the trustee -- they're  
8 not seeking to enforce this against the trustee, they're not  
9 seeking to enforce it against an assignee. They're seeking to  
10 enforce a forfeiture provision against the debtor. And I think  
11 the Footstar line of cases in this district have made -- and I  
12 acknowledge that other districts have come to different --  
13 have -- read (e)(2) differently, but not here. And, frankly, I  
14 think Judge Hardin got it right and Judge Gerber, in his  
15 decision in Adelphia, in referring to the Footstar line of  
16 cases and cites Judge Hardin, not only refers to the -- he  
17 didn't use the word comity, but to the general rule in this  
18 district where Courts generally do agree with each other on  
19 issues that haven't been decided by the Second Circuit. In a  
20 footnote, he makes it clear that he's not just simply based on  
21 that general rule agreeing with Judge Hardin, but that Judge  
22 Gerber thinks that he -- that Judge Hardin absolutely got the  
23 issue right. And, frankly, Your Honor, so do we. It's a plain  
24 language issue.

25 The (e)(2) only applies if they -- ipso facto clause



1 is being asserted against a trustee or an assignee. The debtor  
2 is neither, as Judge Hardin points out. The Code knows how to  
3 use the difference between debtor or debtor in possession while  
4 a debtor is subject to the limitations -- the same limitations  
5 as a trustee, it's not the same thing as a trustee and I think  
6 I would urge it -- Your Honor, to -- that under Footstar and  
7 Adelphia, the issue before us just simply isn't one, that  
8 18.304 is simply preempted by Section 365(e), and as well as  
9 Section 561.

10 That said, I think, in addition to simply being  
11 preempted, even without -- next, without again, trying to --  
12 while I think the documents are clear, I can under -- I can --  
13 I don't think Your Honor has to pick through the documents in  
14 order to determine whether or not they over -- the default  
15 section of 18.304 applies. Because, again, 18.305 -- or  
16 18.304, the Delaware LLC Act, only applies to cause of  
17 forfeiture if, assuming preemption doesn't apply, 18.304 would  
18 only cause a forfeiture if the operating agreement doesn't  
19 otherwise deal with membership interest. Again, the --  
20 Greenbrier attempt -- makes their argument based on what it  
21 really means is economic interests and yes, there is a nine-  
22 seven in our operating agreement, expressly provides that upon  
23 a sale -- or upon a filing, the company can acquire the  
24 membership interest of the entity that filed. What that really  
25 means is just that economic interest that isn't terminated as a



1 consequence of 18.304.

2 The problem with that argument is the definition of  
3 membership interest in the operating agreement expressly  
4 includes, not just the economic interest, which it also  
5 expressly includes the economic interest, but also expressly  
6 includes all of the participatory management and voting rights  
7 of a member. And given that, just on its face, it is a section  
8 that deals with a member's interest -- with membership of a  
9 member that has filed bankruptcy. If -- and under 18.304, if  
10 the operating agreement deals with what happens to a member  
11 upon a member's bankruptcy, then the rest of 18.304 doesn't --  
12 is irrelevant, it doesn't apply.

13 Lastly, even if preemption didn't apply, even if the  
14 document -- even if the agreement wasn't -- didn't take --  
15 contain a provision that -- for dealing with a member's  
16 interest in bankruptcy, even if neither of that applied, you've  
17 got waiver and consent issues that for twenty months we've been  
18 operating as a manager, all of the conduct has been as if we  
19 own -- that we are a member, that our manager is a manager.  
20 The provision in 18.304, there's two ways that 18.304 doesn't  
21 apply. Either because the operating agreement says -- has some  
22 other provision dealing with a member's filing, or if all of  
23 the other members consent. And, again, I go back to every  
24 single board minute in this case that lists every member  
25 including Jack McCarthy and would argue that sitting in board



1 meetings, treating Jack McCarthy as a board member, resolving  
2 to have Jack McCarthy be the compensation committee to  
3 negotiate a compensation for the CEO are all consents to Jack  
4 McCarty being a manager of the entity.

5 As Your -- not that long ago, Your Honor decided the  
6 Benevante (ph.) case, which had similar issues in that for a  
7 long time the contract counterparty in that case just didn't do  
8 anything and didn't do -- what they were supposed to do was  
9 either terminate the agreement or pay the swap payments that  
10 were due and owing to the debtor; they just sat back and relied  
11 on a provision that said the debtors -- filing is a default and  
12 the nondefaulting party doesn't have to make payments to the  
13 defaulting party. After a period of time, on a motion to  
14 enforce the automatic stay, Your Honor ultimately held that in  
15 a -- this is not what Your Honor held, but effectively it was  
16 use it or lose it. You can't sit around for that long in the  
17 case and not paying a debtor. You had a right to terminate.  
18 You had a right not to make these payments, but you had a right  
19 to deal with that in a timely manner.

20 Here, the first instance that we even heard about that  
21 anyone at Greenbrier thought that there was an issue regarding  
22 our membership, LCPI's membership, was fourteen months after  
23 LCPI filed and then, that was in the context of the e-mail  
24 which I know Your Honor has already seen in our pleadings, but  
25 an e-mail that the first 18.304 doesn't make this an economic



1 versus participatory argument. In fact, the exact opposite;  
2 the argument in December had nothing to do with our  
3 membership -- our voting interests, our participatory interest,  
4 the argument in December was, "As a consequence of 18.304, you  
5 don't have forty-nine percent economic interest, so this  
6 sharing argument that -- this sharing proposal that you gave to  
7 us is inadequate. Go back to the drawing boards, LCPI, because  
8 you don't have forty-nine percent because of 18.304."

9 Flash forward five months to May 25th when there's a  
10 governance issue that is -- that at least -- that went against  
11 at least one manager, now all of the sudden, the argument is  
12 not that 18.304 caused us to forfeit our economic interest, the  
13 argument is 18.304, all it did was make you lose your voting  
14 rights, which, by the way, has all these other negative  
15 consequences to the company itself. We don't have an answer  
16 for them, but we're willing to trade a company that can't  
17 operate for not having the ability of this vote that was  
18 carried by a ten to one vote. In fairness, four to five, not  
19 counting the way the voting works, but four persons voting  
20 against one, in order to avoid the effects of that vote, we're  
21 willing to throw this company into a situation that, frankly,  
22 we believe is untenable, unsafe.

23 It's not -- we mentioned it in our pleadings; the  
24 operating agreement is express -- and I'm sorry to keep going  
25 back to the operating agreement, but it really is express on



1 these terms. The company cannot operate, cannot conduct  
2 business except by and through and is authorized by its board  
3 of managers. It can't -- it can hire -- it can retain a  
4 president to the extent that president is appointed by the  
5 board of managers. The board of managers, according to the  
6 debtors' argument, hasn't been in existence for the last twenty  
7 months. Your Honor had said that you've read the declarations  
8 of both Bill Karis and Joe Turley. One of the arguments --  
9 nowhere in that argument or -- and conveniently forgotten, I  
10 guess, by the debtors, is that the appointment of Bill Turley  
11 as an independent manager is an appointment that is made at the  
12 direc -- by all four of the voting members, jointly. So, if  
13 Jack McCarthy isn't a manager because LCPI couldn't appoint  
14 him, under the operating agreement, Bill Karris isn't a manager  
15 because LCPI wasn't there to appoint him.

16 We don't think that -- again, we don't think that  
17 that's the case. We think that that argument is wrong on both  
18 the facts and the law, but it is the conclusion -- if they're  
19 right, that's the concl -- if they're right that LCPI hasn't  
20 had a vote for fourteen months and they haven't found a way to  
21 amend the operating agreement which expressly states that the  
22 Class D member has to vote to appoint -- is part of the joint  
23 vote to appoint even the independent manager, we're not down to  
24 four managers, we're down to three managers of this entity.

25 THE COURT: But that's not really your concern. Your



1 concern is getting Mr. McCarthy back into the room and issues  
2 relating to whether or not the entity is engaged in ultra vires  
3 acts right now may make for good legal argument, but it doesn't  
4 have much to do with whether or not the business is  
5 functioning. My understanding is it's mining coal and  
6 presumably, selling it.

7 MR. ENGMAN: And I don't want to -- as I said on the  
8 call that we had, Your Honor, I'm -- we are being rational and  
9 I don't want to sound like Chicken Little. We're not claiming  
10 the sky is falling, but there is a ephemeral issue when a  
11 company in the lon -- certainly the longer it goes on it's a  
12 real issue. I'm not sure how to quantify the danger or the  
13 concern, but it's real. Real enough that my client has offered  
14 to be one -- just one vote among all five. And we're -- and I  
15 would make that suggestion to Your Honor. If Your Honor noted  
16 that there lots of other things that need to be resolved, we're  
17 happy to keep talking to the company about all of those other  
18 issues, we're happy to keep -- whether that be through  
19 mediation or just ongoing negotiations. But we think that this  
20 management issue needs to be resolved and we're willing to just  
21 be one vote among five. But there needs -- I can't think of a  
22 fairer answer than that.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Let me hear from Mr. Schorling.

24 MR. SCHORLING: May it please the Court, William  
25 Schorling, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney on behalf of Greenbrier



1 Minerals Holdings LLC.

2 Your Honor, as the argument has demonstrated so far,  
3 there are a number of disputes; the effect of Section 18.304 on  
4 the Delaware LLC Act is merely one of them. I would note that  
5 I hadn't intended to engage in negotiation in front of the  
6 Court, but that the other members have countered the debtors'  
7 suggestion. The debtor rejected the other members' proposal,  
8 we then have gone back to the debtor and asked for -- if there  
9 are perhaps areas where we can compromise and we suggested  
10 mediation, which is in fact one of the procedures provided for  
11 in the operating agreement in Article 12 to try to resolve not  
12 just this dispute, but all of the others.

13 The others are fairly important, dealing with the sale  
14 of the mine, the impact of the debtors' breach. The debtor  
15 notes in its motion that it performed through the sixth  
16 amendment; unfortunately there was a seventh amendment. They  
17 failed to fund a ten million dollar request made and approved  
18 prior to filing of the petition, the debtors' petition and then  
19 anticipatorily repudiated by saying that they would not fund  
20 the remaining thirty-nine million dollars. There, following  
21 the in and out of the Midland mine, the debtors stopped  
22 negotiating some two months ago and have not resumed. So that  
23 is, as of right now, at a stop. Obviously, that informs our  
24 view as to why we're here today.

25 We do view this as an attempt to gain leverage and



1 sympathy. Whether -- whatever happens with regard to a quorum  
2 isn't going to have any impact on the negotiation of the  
3 underlying disputes. Everybody has a seat at the table;  
4 everybody has to participate because everyone's interest is  
5 involved.

6 THE COURT: Let me stop you in reference to that last  
7 statement. Is it Greenbrier's position that regardless of the  
8 hat that Mr. McCarthy wears, that he's welcome to be in the  
9 room? He needs to be in the room and the resolution of the  
10 disputes that we've been talking about cannot occur unless he's  
11 in the room?

12 MR. SCHORLING: That's correct. And I would like  
13 to -- our view of history is different from the debtors'.  
14 There was no issue as to the manager's duties and powers prior  
15 to the appointment of Mr. McCarthy. There was a prior manager  
16 who'd been appointed, prior to the debtors' filing its  
17 petition; 18.304, on its face, doesn't speak to managers. It  
18 speaks to right of members to vote and to participate in  
19 management, not on the power of managers to act. The manager  
20 who had been appointed by the debtors resigned. Mr. McCarthy  
21 was purported to be appointed by the debtors in March of '09.

22 In December of '09, Mr. Karis, the independent  
23 manager, raised the issue as to whether or not the debtor had  
24 an ability to vote. It went to more than the debtors' economic  
25 interest. From and after the December 17th memorandum which



1 was attached to the pleadings here, at all of the managers'  
2 meetings, the meeting began with a statement that the nondebtor  
3 parties were reserving their rights as to the debtors' interest  
4 in Greenbrier and right to participate. All of the actions  
5 until we get to the main meeting are unanimous. So that no one  
6 raised the issue of whether -- of the impact of the debtors  
7 having filed bankruptcy on its interest, other than Mr. Karis'  
8 December 17th memo, until the main meeting.

9 Following that meeting, as Mr. Karis says in his  
10 declaration, and again, he's the independent manager, he asked  
11 Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney to look at the impact of the  
12 debtors' bankruptcy on its interest and it was at that time  
13 that we discovered that there was an unusual provision in the  
14 operating agreement which required more than a majority for a  
15 quorum. The language is, more than six to be present for a  
16 quorum. That's when the debtor now raises the issue about the  
17 quorum, but it's been clear since December that there was an  
18 issue about the debtor's right to vote while the parties were  
19 negotiating, while everything was being done consensually.  
20 There wasn't any reason to go further. Indeed, it would have  
21 been counterproductive to the negotiations.

22 We get here today --

23 THE COURT: Mr. Schorling, I just want to break in and  
24 ask a question, not in your capacity as an advocate, but in  
25 your capacity as counsel for an entity that is currently under



1 something of a governance cloud. Isn't it in your client's  
2 best interest that there be some kind of prompt resolution of  
3 disputes in reference to acts of the board of managers and the  
4 allegations that had been made publicly now concerning ultra  
5 vires acts and a governance vacuum of sorts, particularly if  
6 what you're trying to accomplish is a capital transaction that  
7 involves a disposition of the mine's assets.

8 MR. SCHORLING: Your Honor, the disposition of the  
9 mine's assets as I indicated, because of all the interests that  
10 are implicated, that is going to go forward one way or the  
11 other, whether we have a quorum and because all the members  
12 have to participate in that, including the debtor because of  
13 the various interests. The issue on governance, do we have an  
14 interest in --

15 THE COURT: What are fighting about here?

16 MR. SCHORLING: Do we have an interest in a quorum?  
17 Yes, we do. The nondebtor members have made a counterproposal,  
18 and I -- and that is all of the nondebtor members have made a  
19 counterproposal. The debtor rejected it; they don't view this  
20 as the appropriate forum --

21 THE COURT: It's not the appropriate forum.

22 MR. SCHORLING: -- in which to negotiate. But I want  
23 the Court to be clear. We have proceeded, we are proceeding.  
24 The other nondebtor members are proceeding; there is a  
25 provision in the agreement, I think it's Section 9.7 which



1 deals with amendments to the operating agreement. We could  
2 resort to that. The debtor is likely to take issue with that  
3 because if the other members take a position that the debtor  
4 can't vote, the debtor's vote wouldn't count. But there could  
5 be an amendment to the LLC operating agreement which would do  
6 away with the quorum issue. Now, the voting issue; we don't  
7 have to touch voting, just deal with the quorum issue.

8 The issue that the debtor raises as to why it's so  
9 critical that we address that issue -- it's important; it's not  
10 critical. If you look at the action that the board of managers  
11 has taken, as outlined in the debtors' motion of footnote 4,  
12 they approved a release of claims. There was credit to Midland  
13 for some commissions earned and pursuit of a coal sales  
14 agreement, it was with ArcelorMittal. Not -- there's nothing  
15 time sensitive about any of that. The debtor has management in  
16 place, it has professional management in place. It's an  
17 operating deep mine.

18 The duties are delegated to the officers by Section  
19 5.3 which is on page 26 of the operating agreement which is  
20 Exhibit C. The provisions that the debtor points to about this  
21 being manager-managed, are those typical provisions in an LLC  
22 agreement, which differentiate between manager action and  
23 member action. It's a board of manager-managed LLC, not a  
24 member-managed LLC. That's what those provisions go to; they  
25 don't go to the delegation of duties to the officers. That's



1 done in a separate provision, Section 5.3, they've been  
2 delegated, the mine can operate. It's executive decisions that  
3 require the board of management decision making.

4 To go back to the sale, the only sale that's going to  
5 occur is one that's consensual. At which point we aren't going  
6 to have an issue. It will be approved.

7 THE COURT: Well, tell me why that has to happen. I  
8 mean, if I'm understanding what this dispute is principally  
9 about, it's about the rights of Lehman in its capacity as an  
10 equity owner of a certain percentage of the business of  
11 Greenbrier Minerals. And we have this dispute because there is  
12 controversy concerning the rights of Lehman's representative to  
13 vote in reference to entity action and to participate in entity  
14 decision making. Are you saying now that that's really not an  
15 issue, because in order to deal with something as fundamental  
16 as a sale of the assets of the business or substantially all  
17 the assets of the business, which apparently is currently under  
18 contemplation, that they be involved in all events? And if so,  
19 under what authority?

20 MR. SCHORLING: A sale of the business has to take  
21 into account a resolution of Lehman's economic interest and  
22 membership interest and capacity as a lender in any resolution  
23 of the sale. That won't be resolved other than through  
24 litigation which nobody wants, or through a consensual  
25 agreement. It is our view that we were, two months ago, fairly



1 close to a consensual resolution of how to deal with the sale  
2 and with the impact of Lehman's failure to fund on its  
3 membership interest, both economic and managerial.

4 THE COURT: And what's your view as to the best means  
5 to accomplish that desirable objective?

6 MR. SCHORLING: Mediation. Mediation, arbitration if  
7 we can't get beyond that. Hopefully -- well, no, the best  
8 resolution? Negotiation. Clearly it's in the parties'  
9 interests to negotiate a resolution. Failing that, and as  
10 Article 12 provides, there is a provision for mediation. It's  
11 contractual, so we've got a right to mediation.

12 THE COURT: Let me ask you this additional question.  
13 The debtors, both in the telephone conference that has been  
14 adverted to in earlier colloquy and in papers that have been  
15 filed, suggest that there are some significant health and  
16 safety issues that may present themselves because the business  
17 is operating a coal mine. And presumably, there is some  
18 unforeseeable risk of an emergency associated with that  
19 operation. Assuming for a moment that there were such an  
20 emergency, and there were an overhang of doubt concerning the  
21 capacity of the business to function at the management level,  
22 how would that problem be resolved? Or is it a problem in your  
23 view?

24 MR. SCHORLING: I suppose it's a hypothetical  
25 problem --



1 THE COURT: Right, well I'm asking it.

2 MR. SCHORLING: -- and there are lots of hypothetical  
3 issues. The mine is operating safely, it has always operated  
4 safely. There is professional management in place. Indeed,  
5 even when the debtor proposed replacing Mr. Turley, he was  
6 going to be retained at his salary in his management capacity,  
7 so that there's no issue here about the capability of  
8 management. That's not at issue; no one's ever raised that  
9 issue. The mine is operating, it's got professional operators.  
10 They are the ones who are responsible for making sure that it  
11 operates.

12 THE COURT: I understand, but let's go just to the  
13 basics of governance. Management is presumed to be experienced  
14 in the mining industry and that's not the issue. The manager  
15 has to get direction from its board, particularly if there's  
16 something critical going on. How does that happen in the  
17 context in which there is a cloud over the ability of the board  
18 to function?

19 MR. SHAW: Your Honor, you're asking a  
20 hypothetical -- I'll respond hypothetically. The other members  
21 can modify or amend the LLC agreement under Section 9.7 and  
22 they can fix the quorum issue. They haven't been engaged in  
23 negotiation. We believe that this needs to be a negotiated  
24 resolution among all the parties, but they have the right to do  
25 so and they could do so if they wanted to.



1 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you a question that's  
2 comparable to the question that I was asking in the earlier  
3 matter involving the SunCal negotiated settlement that went  
4 into three to four months of hiatus. Without going into the  
5 specifics of the negotiations themselves, have negotiations  
6 taken place since our last telephone conference that you  
7 participated in? Are additional negotiations scheduled and in  
8 your capacity now as an advocate, that is, someone who's  
9 interested in some kind of peaceful resolution of this, is  
10 there promise that ongoing negotiations will produce some kind  
11 of favorable outcome here?

12 MR. SHAW: May I make a slightly long-winded response?

13 THE COURT: You can make a response as long as you  
14 wish. However, it's almost getting to be lunchtime --

15 MR. SHAW: It's our view that the debtor walked away  
16 from the negotiating table two months ago. On the substantive  
17 issues, there has been little to no negotiation because the  
18 debtor is not communicating. There has been negotiation over  
19 the narrow issue presented here. The debtor made a proposal,  
20 we responded, the debtor rejected our response. As I said, we  
21 asked if there were scenarios where compromise might be  
22 possible and in the alternative, if they would agree to  
23 mediate. So --

24 THE COURT: When you said agree to mediate, is that  
25 only with respect to the governance issue?



1 MR. SHAW: It was raised in the governance context,  
2 meditation overall would be fine with us.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 MR. SHAW: So, you know, I can't speak for the debtor,  
5 but I can tell you what our view is and that is our view of the  
6 facts.

7 THE COURT: Okay. Based upon what I've heard and  
8 without getting into the merits of the underlying dispute that  
9 involves an operating agreement and its interpretation,  
10 provisions of the Delaware Limited Liability Company Law and  
11 the interpretation of Section 18.304 of that law, questions of  
12 waiver and estoppel and consent, it seems to me that it is  
13 probably in the best interest of the parties to this dispute  
14 for me not to rule today, but to encourage ongoing  
15 conversations along the lines described by Mr. Schorling  
16 focused, at least initially, on resolution of the voting issue  
17 within a board of managers of Greenbrier Minerals Holdings and  
18 the question of Mr. McCarthy's role or the role of any  
19 successor who may take Mr. McCarthy's place.

20 Mr. Schorling has made a variety of representations  
21 which I accept that the Lehman representative needs to be a  
22 part of the solution here and that it's in the best interest of  
23 Greenbrier Minerals that there be such a solution, including a  
24 possible sale of the business in a manner that takes into  
25 account the high sulfur content of the coal generated by



1 Greenbrier and allows that to be mixed with other coal of low  
2 sulfur quality. Nobody said that but I read that somewhere.

3 I think, under the circumstances, the parties should  
4 meet and confer with that goal in mind, recognizing that a  
5 failure to reach an understanding on governance will lead to  
6 further litigation, not only as it relates to governance, but  
7 all the other subsidiary issues that have been identified by  
8 the parties in their pleadings that I have read.

9 I also note that while there is a dispute between the  
10 parties as to whether enforcement of the automatic stay is the  
11 proper procedural means to achieve the end of resolving the  
12 governance issue that's before the Court, I believe that I do  
13 not have at this juncture a sufficient record in order to make  
14 a determination, at least as it relates to the questions of  
15 consent and waiver and course of conduct of the parties at  
16 various meetings that took place during the period when  
17 everybody was acting consensually after the Lehman bankruptcy  
18 filing.

19 Accordingly, I wouldn't be prepared to rule today even  
20 if I wanted to because I think I would need more of a record  
21 than I have. And I would want to see Mr. McCarthy in person;  
22 I'd want to see Mr. Turley, I'd want to see the independent  
23 manager and know more about the way this enterprise actually  
24 has functioned and governed itself in the ordinary course,  
25 particularly since the commencement of the bankruptcy case.



1           So my ruling for today is that I'm not ruling but I am  
2     encouraging the parties to do exactly what Mr. Schorling has  
3     said he believes needs to be done. And if the parties can  
4     negotiate a resolution, that would be, obviously, the best  
5     outcome. If there is a fundamental difficulty in reasonable  
6     discourse, without getting into the question of whether the  
7     disputes are fundamentally arbitrable or subject to a mediation  
8     provision in the agreement, as to which I am not making any  
9     judgment at this time, I believe it will be useful for a third  
10    party to act as an intermediary in order to help get to a  
11    resolution.

12           I note this because as was clear from the argument of  
13    debtors' counsel, even were I to rule that the actions of  
14    Greenbrier constituted a stay violation or maybe a continuing  
15    stay violation as it relates to the interests of Lehman as  
16    holder of membership interests in Greenbrier, that doesn't  
17    solve the problem. It's just one step along the way toward a  
18    possible solution. So not only do I encourage that cooperative  
19    dialogue, but I would like to be kept advised not as to the  
20    specifics but as to the level of progress being made and I  
21    would suggest that we schedule a telephone conference report to  
22    chambers sometime in the next week or two. I'm not  
23    micromanaging this to tell you when that call should be placed,  
24    but my notion of this is that the leash on this needs to be  
25    fairly short.



1 And if the parties are not making material progress in  
2 reaching some kind of business solution here, that conversation  
3 will turn into a scheduling conference to talk about when next  
4 we'll be in court; what discovery, if any, the parties may need  
5 in order to prepare for an evidentiary hearing. And the  
6 scheduling of that hearing for a day that will not be on the  
7 omnibus calendar because I presume it will take more time. And  
8 I'll see you when next I see you and I'll hear from you in the  
9 next week or two.

10 Please work cooperatively to at least find a date and  
11 time when I will be in chambers for that call and you can find  
12 that out by checking with my courtroom deputy. And that's all  
13 I have to say on this right now.

14 MR. SHAW: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Norton Gold Fields.

16 MR. GOLDFARB: Good morning, Your Honor. My name is  
17 James Goldfarb. I'm with the law firm of Jones Day; we  
18 represent the debtors and debtors in possession. To cut to the  
19 chase, we have some positive news to report to you and I think  
20 this will be a lot quicker than what's gone before, this  
21 morning.

22 We were last before you on May 12th. The reason we  
23 were here was to have a hearing on debtors' motion. It was  
24 debtors' motion to compel and also to pursue a violation of the  
25 automatic stay against a counterparty of one of the



1 constituents of the estate, that would be Norton Gold Field  
2 (sic), which is an Australian gold producer and mining  
3 operation. Specifically, it was the estate's contention that  
4 Norton was not paying as it was obligated to under a swap  
5 arrangement that it had dealing with the gold prices with this  
6 constituent number of the estate, specifically LBCC, Lehman  
7 Brothers Commercial Corporation.

8 Your Honor suggested that the parties, rather than  
9 have a full-blown hearing, mediate the dispute. The parties  
10 took Your Honor up on that suggestion and we've made  
11 substantial progress towards a positive resolution and a  
12 consensual resolution. There is still some more work to be  
13 done but after confirming with Mr. Tillinghast, who represents  
14 Norton, the feeling is there's no need to have a hearing on the  
15 motion today and we would ask to adjourn until the next omnibus  
16 date, giving the parties an opportunity to finalize along the  
17 positive path that they've embarked on.

18 THE COURT: Fine. That's a very promising report and  
19 it's too bad you had to spend the whole day to make it, but --  
20 just in terms of your use of time. But I'll see you next month  
21 and I hope you continue to make progress.

22 MR. GOLDFARB: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 MR. MILLER: Good morning, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: It's actually good afternoon, now. It's  
25 12:30.



1 MR. MILLER: Happy Bastille Day. Your Honor, the next  
2 matter -- that concludes the omnibus calendar. The next  
3 matter, I think, Your Honor, is not on the record; it was in  
4 connection with a telephone conference that was scheduled for  
5 yesterday afternoon which Your Honor kindly agreed to put over  
6 to today because of an inconvenience on my part. So I don't  
7 know whether Your Honor wants this on the record or off the  
8 record. It relates to a request by White & Case for, I think,  
9 a status conference. And we have a position.

10 THE COURT: Well, we have a very full courtroom still  
11 and I'm guessing that we have as many people here as we have in  
12 part because of the telephone conference that you just  
13 described and the request made by the ad hoc creditors  
14 represented by White & Case to discuss procedures relating to  
15 the plan process here. It may be that people are here for a  
16 different reason or --

17 MR. MILLER: I believe they're all here for that, Your  
18 Honor.

19 THE COURT: I kind of figured that. So let's hear  
20 from White & Case on what they are proposing at this point.  
21 Their papers had requested an opportunity to speak at today's  
22 hearing and here they are.

23 MR. SHORE: Thank you, Your Honor. Chris Shore from  
24 White & Case for the ad hoc committee of Lehman Brothers  
25 Creditors. And we represent about sixteen billion dollars of



1 claims in the case. We filed an objection on June 29th that,  
2 Your Honor's correct, requested today's conference. And the  
3 nature of that objection, I don't want to discuss today.  
4 Actually, I think we can handle this quickly; it's really just  
5 a request to establish a notice procedure to a next hearing.  
6 And let me explain what I mean by that.

7 We understand -- we filed the objection. I've heard  
8 from a number of people, I've discussed it with the committee,  
9 I've discussed it with the debtors and I understand they may --  
10 both the committee and the debtors may have something to set  
11 today, but there's been some confusion about whether we would  
12 have the status conference today that was only resolved  
13 yesterday afternoon. So I'm not even sure that everybody who  
14 wanted to speak on procedures would be here today and I think  
15 that's probably premature.

16 What we'd like to do right now is set a date, whether  
17 it's at the next omnibus or some other date that's convenient  
18 to the Court to have people back to discuss two issues; whether  
19 there need to be procedures at all with respect to inter-debtor  
20 issues, the dissemination of information and the manner of  
21 conducting depositions and the like, and I understand the  
22 debtors have some firm views on that, and then if there are  
23 going to proceed to be procedures, what those procedures would  
24 be like.

25 The committee has offered to solicit views from



1 creditors as to what procedures they would find acceptable,  
2 with the idea being in the interim between now and that  
3 scheduled hearing, we'd get as close as we could to some sort  
4 of negotiated order and then have the Court resolve, if it all,  
5 any issues that remain at that point, including the dating  
6 issue of whether there should be procedures at all. And that  
7 way, we can get people and get notice out to people as  
8 inclusively as possible to provide what is essentially a notice  
9 and comment period, so that we can come back to Your Honor with  
10 a more fully baked set of procedures.

11 MR. MILLER: Your Honor, in the spirit of all the  
12 discussion about consensual proceedings this morning, we  
13 certainly have no objection to what Mr. Shore has said. But I  
14 would like to point out, Your Honor, that this all started with  
15 the filing of what is denominated as a preliminary objection to  
16 the plan that was filed on March 14th on the disclosure  
17 statement which was filed on April 15th of this year. Though  
18 we tried to point out to Mr. Shore and Mr. Uzzi, Your Honor,  
19 that plan that's on file which was filed, as Your Honor well  
20 knows, because of the eighteen-month limitation. Basically it  
21 has served as a catalyst for further negotiations and the  
22 position that we have taken is there are constant negotiations  
23 going on. We now have, Your Honor, in addition to the ad hoc  
24 committee, we have an alliance of LBRF (sic) creditors who have  
25 engaged the Blackstone firm as their financial advisor --



1 MR. MALONEY: LBSF.

2 MR. MILLER: I'm sorry?

3 MR. MALONEY: SF.

4 MR. MILLER: SF -- I'm sorry. Thank you, Tom. Which  
5 we have a NDA with Blackstone. We have an NDA that's almost  
6 finalized, resolved and could go representing a group in the  
7 LBT case. We have other groups that have been involved.

8 THE COURT: Is that --

9 MR. MILLER: Maybe I've got the initials wrong. But  
10 I'll -- there are multiple negotiations going on, Your Honor.  
11 And as Your Honor knows, the protocol meetings are going on.  
12 What we have said, Your Honor, is the plan is -- will undergo  
13 revision, Your Honor. There's another meeting next week in  
14 Berlin with the foreign administrators and receivers, all of  
15 which have blossomed off the plan that was filed and lots of  
16 comments, Your Honor, and comments, I might say, Your Honor,  
17 from the ad hocs also which are being considered.

18 It was argued that this was preliminary but in light  
19 of Mr. Shore's comments, we have no objection, Your Honor, to  
20 spending the next period between now and the next omnibus  
21 hearing in negotiating a discovery order, protocol, whatever is  
22 necessary in this case. But in the context, Your Honor, that  
23 the preliminary objection is filed to a plan that's not being  
24 prosecuted. That plan is going to be substantially revised, I  
25 believe. And a new disclosure statement. So, to a certain



1 extent, this is premature.

2 We are also have been in negotiations for a long time,  
3 and I don't want to repeat anything anybody else said about  
4 parties coming to a stalemate and respective an NDA agreement  
5 with AlixPartners, which has been engaged by the ad hoc group,  
6 and I use "the group" loosely. Your Honor, we have offered  
7 them the same NDA agreement that the Blackstone Group has  
8 signed. That's unacceptable. We're still prepared to  
9 negotiate with them, Your Honor, and hopefully before -- well  
10 before the next omnibus hearing, we will have an NDA and they  
11 can go and do their investigation.

12 The issue here, Your Honor, is practically nobody  
13 wants to be restricted. So there is an issue about nonpublic  
14 information and how it gets distributed and who has access to  
15 that. That's what has to be negotiated, Your Honor. So I  
16 would join in Mr. Shore's presentation; we will take the time  
17 and try and work out an appropriate order. Thank you, Your  
18 Honor.

19 THE COURT: Okay. It looks like the committee wants  
20 to say a few words.

21 MR. FLECK: Thank you, Your Honor, and good afternoon.  
22 Evan Fleck of Milbank Tweed on behalf of the committee. As is  
23 evident from the remarks already on this matter, what I was  
24 prepared to start with is that from the committee's view  
25 there's not much dividing the bits and parties, the ad hoc



1 group and their request and the debtors. It's also consistent  
2 where the committee has been since before the plan was filed  
3 that it's appropriate that there be an information sharing  
4 process and this is a good opportunity for us to be before the  
5 Court. It's not -- certainly not solely because of the ad hoc  
6 group's pleading, but it's not really a controversial issue in  
7 the committee's view that there should be information sharing  
8 pursuant to an appropriate process.

9 And I also wanted to mention to Your Honor that the  
10 committee was prepared to file a pleading to memorialize its  
11 position on this but, as was mentioned, it was unclear whether  
12 there was going to be an opportunity to speak on this today.  
13 That will probably be unnecessary to do that, but we can  
14 certainly put it in a written pleading.

15 Also, Your Honor, I think from the committee's  
16 perspective, it's important to note that the issues, the  
17 substantive issues that are set forth in the ad hoc group's  
18 preliminary objection are important and we think they're  
19 important with respect to any plan that is ultimately  
20 prosecuted. We are certainly aware of the fact of the current  
21 posture of the plan that was filed, why it was filed when it  
22 was filed and the fact that a hearing on the disclosure  
23 statement has not yet been scheduled. But it's the committee's  
24 view that there's not a reason to wait to start to come up with  
25 a process, together with all the parties that are relevant,



1 that want to participate in the process, that will maximize and  
2 promote efficiency to getting the information that -- the raw  
3 data. To start with the raw data as opposed to jumping into  
4 depositions, but start to share the raw data that we, the  
5 committee, know exists. Obviously, the debtors do and it  
6 should be shared among parties.

7 And that's something there has been a process underway  
8 to start to do that, but we think through the filing of the  
9 objection and this discussion with the Court today, we'll  
10 hopefully jump-start that into a more organized process so that  
11 all the parties who want to participate pursuant to an  
12 appropriate protective order will be able to do that and draw  
13 their own legal conclusions about one issue that's been raised  
14 is the appropriateness of substantive consolidation of the  
15 debtors' estates. And there may be, through the course of the  
16 discussion with the parties-in-interest, other issues that  
17 people feel are appropriate to be folded into this process.  
18 It's not just any issue, these -- what in the committee's view,  
19 it would be issues that are clearly going to be a part of this  
20 plan or any plan that would be prosecuted for these estates, to  
21 bring these estates out of these proceedings.

22 As I mentioned, Your Honor, we have been discussing  
23 the information sharing process with the debtors and the  
24 various constituencies and we are aware of the fact that  
25 certain of the financial advisors, two groups that have formed,



1 have finalized their agreements and it's really, in the  
2 committee's view, a matter of converting these nondisclosure  
3 agreements that have been put in place into an appropriate  
4 protective order. As Mr. Shore mentioned, the committee is  
5 happy to perform the role that it has in certain other  
6 disputes, although as I said, I don't think this is a true  
7 dispute, but an issue that needs to get resolved through a  
8 process.

9 The committee's happy to serve as a clearinghouse for  
10 comments, should the Court be receptive to us doing so. And we  
11 would expect to, if the Court is willing, work through that  
12 process with the relevant parties and come back to the Court  
13 with, hopefully, a procedure -- not necessarily the one that  
14 was put in place in Adelphia. We've heard from many, many --  
15 we have our own views about that process; we've heard from many  
16 creditors about it. But a process that, hopefully, a critical  
17 mass of the parties including the debtors and the ad hoc group  
18 and others are comfortable with for moving forward and come  
19 before the Court, hopefully with something that's acceptable.  
20 Otherwise, we would come, identify the issues and look for  
21 guidance from the Court for further direction.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Thanks. It looks like others wish  
23 to be heard, just as I was ready to foreclose further comment.

24 MR. HUEBNER: I could sit down if you'd like, Your  
25 Honor, but I'll be extremely brief.



1 For the record, Your Honor, Marshall Huebner of Davis  
2 Polk & Wardwell, here as now co-counsel to Linklaters for LBIE  
3 and the foreign administrators of the European entities  
4 centered in England. Two brief comments, Your Honor.

5 Number one, I think it should probably not go  
6 unmentioned that the ad hoc committee, of course, expressed a  
7 view on a variety of substantive issues about what they don't  
8 like about the plan in their pleading and that was really the  
9 vehicle for their requesting to begin discovery. We didn't  
10 think it was appropriate to file any sort of response on the  
11 pleading. We didn't think it was necessarily procedurally  
12 appropriate but, of course, it goes without saying that there's  
13 a strong second view about the propriety of the plan in the  
14 other direction on the treatment of various parties including  
15 certain foreign affiliates.

16 Second, Your Honor, more to the point for today and  
17 with this I'll close. I heard, I think, Mr. Shore volunteered,  
18 as well as Mr. Fleck, to each be the clearinghouse and  
19 essentially hold the pen on these proposed procedures. Given,  
20 obviously, that Mr. Shore, with all due respect, is a strong  
21 advocate for a specific point of view and a specific outcome on  
22 the plan, it's not clear to me that he as a nonfiduciary would  
23 ever be the appropriate person to coalesce the comments and  
24 hold the pen or the computer. I would probably guess that the  
25 debtors would have a much stronger interest in helping design



1 the discovery procedures around their own plan. We're happy to  
2 see what the Court's pleasure is. Mr. Fleck also volunteered.  
3 I'm not going to volunteer because I think it's not the job of  
4 an individual creditor with a point of view to say, "Oh, I'll  
5 help by designing the procedures," but I would have an interest  
6 in seeing how and who helps design it.

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 It's always good to know when it's probably best to  
9 sit down.

10 MR. MALONEY: It's probably best, but I just -- Your  
11 Honor, Tom Maloney on behalf of Goldman --

12 THE COURT: That's my way of saying it's probably  
13 best to sit down.

14 MR. MALONEY: I was going to sit down.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Here's the point. I mean, there  
16 are a lot of people in the room, many of whom have been here  
17 since 10 a.m. when we started, with a greater interest in this  
18 unscripted portion of the agenda than that which was on the  
19 agenda. And I don't want, by hearing certain people, to limit  
20 the interests of others who may have different clients to get  
21 up and say something. This is not the time for comment,  
22 really, and Mr. Huebner, in effect, got in last licks.

23 This is instructive to me as to what's happening  
24 behind the scenes. The telephone conference that led to this  
25 discussion lasted less than thirty seconds yesterday at 4:30 in



1 the afternoon and the purpose of the conference was to discuss  
2 whether we were going to have a status conference today to talk  
3 about the procedures requested by the ad hoc committee  
4 represented by White & Case.

5 Mr. Shore's comments were brief and not particularly  
6 controversial. And Mr. Miller's rejoinder, equally brief and  
7 not controversial. Let me just tell you what I see happening  
8 and what I would propose for next time. At this moment, the  
9 Court has no role in establishing procedures for the sharing of  
10 information, for the management of that information, for the  
11 taking of any discovery with reference to that information and  
12 for the development of a protocol in reference to the plan  
13 process. That may happen, but it's not before me today.

14 I do think, though, that this informal discussion, on  
15 the record as it turns out, is useful in identifying publicly,  
16 for the benefit of those who are taking notes and reporting to  
17 third parties, that there is a process that parties are at  
18 least thinking about. I also think it is good and useful  
19 information to know that there are groups of creditors who are  
20 forming with the benefit of sophisticated financial advisors  
21 and counsel to assess the plan as it exists and alternatives  
22 that may be developed.

23 I am uncertain as to whether it is a good idea or not  
24 to schedule a status conference in reference to this general  
25 subject matter as soon as next month. And I am going to allow



1 the natural processes of the case to percolate. To the extent  
2 that the debtors believe that it would be useful and  
3 informative to have an agenda item next month dealing,  
4 generally, with the topic of communication and information  
5 sharing -- I may not have given that the right label, but I  
6 think you all know what I'm referring to, I'm prepared to hear  
7 that status conference at the next omnibus hearing date, on a  
8 special date and also in a different month or two. I am  
9 concerned about saying now, "See me in August and we'll talk  
10 about this," because it may not yet be ripe. But it may also  
11 be useful in terms of providing a public report as to how  
12 things are moving along.

13 I don't really have a clear view of this at the moment  
14 because I don't know enough about what's going on and I don't  
15 need to know it. It's probably best that I not know it at the  
16 moment. So I'm going to leave it to Mr. Miller in consultation  
17 with the creditors' committee and other parties-in-interest  
18 who've expressed themselves on the record and those who are in  
19 the courtroom or may not be in the courtroom who have not yet  
20 expressed themselves on the record to determine what's best for  
21 the case. And if that means having a status conference next  
22 month, fine. If it means having it another time, fine.

23 We have a calendar at 2:00 relating to adversary  
24 proceedings and we're adjourned until then.

25 (Whereupon these proceedings were concluded at 12:48 p.m.)



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I N D E X

R U L I N G S

DESCRIPTION	PAGE	LINE
Stipulation lifting the automatic stay so that JPMorgan can proceed in a lawsuit approved	18	22
Motion of LBHI for authorization to sell its limited partnership interest in New Silk Route PE Asia Fund, L.P. granted	21	25
Motion of Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and Lehman Commercial Paper Inc. for approval of a settlement agreement with Silver Lake Credit Fund, L.P. and Silver Lake Financial Associates, L.P. granted	29	10
LBHI's motion to authorize to transfer certain mortgaging servicing rights from LBHI to Aurora	45	25



C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Lisa Bar-Leib, certify that the foregoing transcript is a  
true and accurate record of the proceedings.

**Lisa Bar-Leib**

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Date: July 16, 2010